

The

# Baptist Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Thursday, February 16, 1984

Published Since 1877

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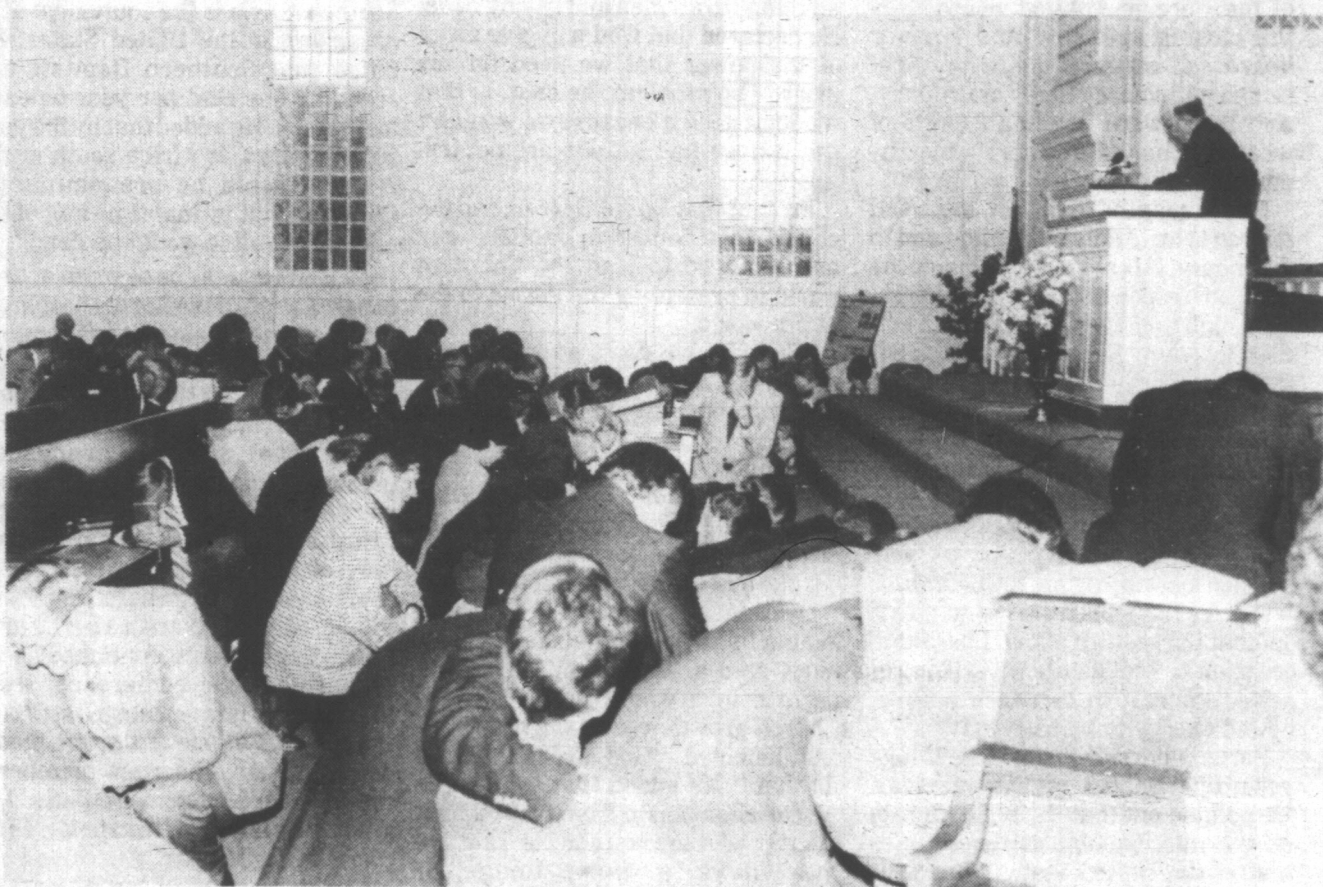
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Responding to one of the songs during a mini-concert during the Evangelism/Bible Conference were, from left, pianist Chris Jenkins, minister of music, First Church, Gautier; Keith Parks, president, Foreign Mission Board; Gary Cornet, music evangelist, Louisville; and Delos Miles, professor, Southeastern Seminary.



Dozens of members of the congregation respond to an altar call for prayer by Keith Parks at the close of the conference.

## Evangelism/Bible Conference (Story on Page 4)

New officers of the state association of full time evangelists include Robert Jackson, pastor, First Church, Brandon, pastor-advisor; Gary Bowlin, Brandon, president; Sonny Adkins, Newhebron, vice president; and Jerry Swimmer, luka, secretary-treasurer.



Carpenter's Wood of William Carey College was one of the groups that offered musical praise during the conference.

Harold Branch, left, pastor of St. Johns Church, Corpus Christi, talks with Allen Webb, Jackson County director of missions.

Ron Dunn, evangelist from Irving, Tex., speaks on "The Meaning of Discipleship."



# Editorials..... by don mcgregor

## High times in evangelism

I did not get to attend all of the Evangelism-Bible Conference last week because of deadline concerns of the **Baptist Record**. I was there for the final two sessions, however, and received a decided blessing from being there. I enjoyed it.

Keith Parks, executive secretary of the Foreign Mission Board, was the closing speaker; and I never heard the mission challenge presented with more clarity or urgency. And there were thrilling reports of what is going on in improbable circumstances all over the world.

Parks pointed out that the local church is local only in location and in autonomy. It is always worldwide, he said, in responsibility. It is the responsibility of every Christian to witness to everyone in the world, he added.

We at the **Baptist Record** believe that with all of our hearts. We have stated time and again that the simple purpose of the **Baptist Record** is to seek to aid the churches of the Mississippi Baptist Convention in their mission of witnessing to the world. While we have been trying to carry out that purpose all along, I used this occasion to rededicate myself to renewed interest in this task and renewed energy to be used in it.

Parks said some startling things regarding Baptist efforts overseas. He pointed out that the baptism rate on the mission field is three times that of the United States. The 3,000 mission churches in 103 countries overseas, he said, baptize at the rate of three times those in the United States. In Brazil it is one person for every six members. In the United States, he said, it is one person baptized for more than 30 members.

In addition to that, the indication was that in Communist countries Christianity may be growing faster

than in the free countries. He said the church growth in China is beyond understanding, maybe five times or maybe even 50 times now the size it was when the missionaries left due to the Communist takeover.

He compared some churches to ecclesiastical country clubs, becoming all things to all men and saving none. He declared that God will give us all of the power that we need for his glory. The problem, he said, is that we don't need it because we wouldn't use it if we had it. "We are not trying."

He said that David Barrett had declared that Southern Baptists only are equipped to lead the Christian world in presenting the gospel to the entire world.

"Suppose we don't do it?" Parks asked. He answered that God would find someone else, but it would take years.

"Suppose we did it right," he said. "The power of God would flow through us in a way not seen in modern times." The gospel would move out like a fire in dry timber, he added.

Delos Miles, associate professor of evangelism at Southeastern Seminary, said a lack of church growth results in a world going to hell. Church growth won't take care of itself, he noted. "God has called us to do that." He added that we need to rescue evangelism from the red light district of the church. He said we may have a false image of evangelism and we need to be careful lest we cheapen the gospel of Jesus Christ.

"Don't equate Kingdom growth and church growth," he said. He pointed out that Kingdom growth is bigger and that God has other people besides Southern Baptists alone to witness it the world. "Church growth needs to be rooted in Kingdom

growth," he declared.

Parks added that most of the world does not know enough to say yes or no to Jesus Christ. He pointed out, however, that in Southeast Asia new churches are starting faster than the missionaries can keep up with. He said the number of missionaries in Southeast Asia is the equivalent of 18 preachers in the United States. He noted that Southern Baptists are spending one cent per year on each lost person. He added that by the year 2000 the area in Africa south of the Sahara would be predominantly Christian, but by that time half of the adults now alive would be dead.

As is always the case when a large congregation of the Lord's people get together, the music was outstanding. Congregational singing on those occasions is always thrilling and inspiring.

A number of music evangelists presented special numbers, and they were all well received. In addition the "Praise from the Keyboards" portions of the sessions were as fine as could be found anywhere. Dot Pray, music specialist with the Church Music Department, continued as the organist for the conference. Irene Martin, music evangelist from Forest, was at one of the two pianos used this year. And a new member of the keyboard corps was Chris Jenkins, minister of music at First Church, Gautier.

The Mississippi Singing Churchmen presented a short concert on Tuesday evening, and the Mississippi Churchmen Handbells took the place of the "Praise from the Keyboard" for that session.

Evangelism conferences have always been high times for me. I appreciated the portion of this one that I was able to attend.

## Guest opinion . . .

### SBC schools in Bold Mission Thrust

By Arthur L. Walker Jr.

Leaving Southern Baptist colleges and schools out of Bold Mission Thrust would be like leaving baking powder out of a cake recipe.

As baking powder gives form to cakes and breads, Southern Baptist colleges and schools provide the background necessary to carry out

Southern Baptists' plan to educate the world about Christ by the year 2000.

Last year 21,664 students were preparing for careers in church-related vocations. Of those, 3,454 were preparing to be home and foreign mission volunteers.

As graduates many of these will have integral roles in Bold Mission Thrust as they travel to places where the Word of God is not valued or not known at all. Those who choose to remain in the United States to serve churches as pastors and ministers of youth, education or music will play

an equally important rôle in reaching others for Christ.

But what about the approximately 163,000 students who were studying for other vocations in Southern Baptist colleges and schools last year?

Southern Baptist educational in-  
(Continued on page 11)

## Guest opinion . . .

### Baptist Record reminiscence

By Elizabeth Draughton Yates

(Mrs. Yates lives at 158 N. Arcadia Park, Lexington, Ky. 40503. She was editorial assistant for the **Baptist Record**, 1944-48. See "Faces and Places," pg. 5.)

In the summer of 1944 my pastor, Elwyn Wilkinson, Sr., resigned at

Lexington Avenue Church, Danville, Ky., where I was financial secretary, to accept a church in Lexington, Ky. (Note: Elwyn Wilkinson Jr. is pastor at Perkinson, Miss. His late father was once pastor of Handsboro Church and his mother is a member

there.) My prayer was, "Lord, don't let me stay here to be kicked out, if the new minister wants to choose his own co-worker."

A friend and neighboring pastor, John Newport, received his graduate degree from Southern Seminary, and

left Crab Orchard Church to accept First Church, Clinton, Miss. A L. Goodrich, of Clinton, editor of the **Baptist Record**, went to the reception honoring his new pastor, and in-

(Continued on page 11)

#### The Baptist Record

(ISSN-0005-5778)

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Jackson, Miss. 39205

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Journal of  
The Mississippi Baptist  
Convention

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Bruce Hill, Lexington; Odie Henderson, Cleveland, vice-chairman; Tom Hudson, Jackson, chairman; Owen Lusk, Columbia; Robert H. Jackson, Brandon; Dan Thompson, Ackerman; Ex-officio, Evelyn Keyes, secretary.

Subscription \$7.35 a year payable in advance.  
Published weekly except week of July 4 and Christmas.

Second Class Postage paid at Jackson, Mississippi.

The Baptist Record is a member of the Southern Baptist Press Association.

Volume CVIII Number 3

# The Baptist Record

"Unique ways"

## ACTS eliminates \$3.5 million in fiscal worries

By Dan Martin

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP)—Trustees of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission have authorized three "unique ways" to provide the financing necessary to ensure that the American Christian Television System (ACTS) goes on the air in May.

In order to get ACTS on the air, RTVC President Jimmy R. Allen has been seeking "unique ways" of "raising the capital needed," which is not available through regular channels of denominational support.

"Simply put," said one RTVC source, "we don't have the money to get it (ACTS) on the air, and we're scrambling around trying to find the way."

At its January meeting the RTVC board approved a financing plan for a satellite transmitting facility, a lease for a network operations center, and a renegotiated contract for satellite time. Each action presents \$1 million or more that the RTVC will not have to spend in capital needs before the ACTS network can begin operation.

Trustees also approved changes in a fourth essential: the rental agreement for one of 24 transponders on Spacenet I, a satellite to be launched by GTE Spacenet Corp.

The items—necessary if the network is to go on the air in May—would have cost an estimated \$3.5 million, which neither the RTVC nor ACTS has.

The operations center, which creates the broadcast signal to send to the uplink was projected to cost between \$800,000 and \$1 million. The uplink, which receives the signal and sends it to the satellite, was expected to cost a like amount, and receiving dishes—primarily for use in "new work areas for Southern Baptists"—were estimated at \$1.5 million.

Allen told trustees "denominational programs" such as the unified plan of finance, the Cooperative Program, "simply are not equipped" to begin new things, and explained ACTS, which is expected to be carried on some 1,000 cable systems and reach 30 to 40 million people by the end of the first year, will be very big even at the beginning.

Luke E. Williams, RTVC executive vice president, explained ACTS planners "have known all along" the items were necessary and the "money would have to come from somewhere" other than Cooperative Program allocations.

During their meeting, trustees approved a plan whereby they will lease equipment necessary for the opera-

tions center, okayed a proposal to obtain the uplink time through a complicated arrangement with a group of Dallas investors and endorsed a renegotiated contract with GTE Spacenet Corp., which will provide reduced rental on the transponder as well as \$1.5 million to purchase receiving dishes.

Trustees voted to lease equipment for the operations center from Sussex Corp. of Great Neck, N.Y., at a cost of about \$22,500 per month for five years. At the expiration of the lease period, the RTVC can buy the equipment at "very favorable rates," Williams said.

"We have had it in our minds from the time we got into this (ACTS) that this money would not come from Cooperative Program funds; that it was money we would have to raise," Williams said, adding funds to pay the first year's lease—\$270,000—currently are "in hand."

Trustees authorized Allen to execute the uplink plan, under which the RTVC will provide land it currently owns, as well as a building, to a group of Dallas investors who will provide a microwave tower, dishes, and electronics equipment.

The plan, Allen said, will result in "almost zero cost," to the RTVC to send its signal to the satellite. The investors who are forming DFW Uplink, Inc., will sell transmitting services to other satellite customers in the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

The proposal for DFW Uplink, Inc., was presented to trustees by Ralph Tacker, a Dallas builder and developer, who worked as a full-time Mission Service Corps volunteer with the RTVC in 1982-83 as chairman of the agency's advisory committee to low power television stations.

Williams said Tacker and a "group of interested and friendly Baptist laypersons" were in the process of forming DFW Uplink, Inc., in early February. Tacker, Williams said, "has finished his service but is still on call for certain things."

The third action authorized Allen to renegotiate RTVC's current contract with GTE Spacenet Corp., which called for lease payments of \$175,000 per month. The new contract, to which GTE Spacenet has already agreed, reduces the payments to \$138,300 per month.

In the renegotiated arrangement, GTE Spacenet will provide \$1.5 million over the next year with which RTVC will purchase "approximately 150 receiving dishes at an estimated \$10,000 each" for use on the ACTS network, Williams said.

All of the cable TV systems and

television stations that will carry ACTS will need receivers to get the signal from the satellite. In most areas, groups of Southern Baptist churches will purchase the dishes.

In areas such as the Northeastern United States, where Southern Baptist work is not strong, the RTVC will purchase receiver dishes, guaranteeing ACTS will be carried on some of the nation's largest cable systems, even though Southern Baptist support is minimal.

Williams added the yearly lease of \$1,659,600 will be offset by a previously announced plan of requesting participating churches to pay 10 cents per resident member per month.

"It will take about 1,800 churches with an average of 750 members to make it (the system) work. We see it as something very do-able," Williams added.

According to RTVC officials, Spacenet I will be launched April 12. It will be carried into space by a French Ariane rocket from French Guiana, South America.

## Lebanese Baptist killed; several missionaries leave

BEIRUT, Lebanon (BP)—Samuel Atweh, a Lebanese Baptist, was killed in cross fire in Beirut Feb. 6 when he ventured out to buy food for his family.

Atweh's funeral and burial were in Monsouriyeh, an east Beirut suburb, but it was not clear whether he was killed in the east or west side of the divided city.

Atweh, the brother-in-law of Ghasan Khalaf, president of the Lebanese Baptist Convention, died on the day Shiite Moslem militiamen and the Lebanese army waged a fierce battle for control of west Beirut.

Finlay Graham, Foreign Mission Board field administrator for the Middle East, reported from Nicosia, Cyprus, Feb. 9 all 20 Southern Baptist missionaries, their nine children and a volunteer couple are safe. Graham has maintained daily telephone contact with the missionaries since civil strife intensified in Lebanon Feb. 2.

Six missionaries and five children evacuated Lebanon for Cyprus when transportation became available, according to Isam Ballenger, the board's director for Europe and the Middle East. Currently the international airport and the two primary

ocean ports are closed.

Mack and Linda Sacco, from Gilroy, Calif., and McAlester, Okla., left with their four children, ranging in age from 4 to 15, as do Pat Dunn, from Mobile, Ala.; her 13-year-old daughter, Ashleigh, and Russell Futrell, a new missionary from Pineville, La.

As of Feb. 9, the American Embassy had not called for a general evacuation of the estimated 1,000 Americans in Lebanon, though nonessential embassy personnel were evacuated earlier to a ship waiting offshore. Steve and Meriam Fox, aided a west Beirut Baptist family whose home was destroyed in the fighting, Graham said, until the Foxes evacuated.

Missionaries also have benefited from the support of Lebanese Baptists and other neighbors. Nancie Wingo, a native of Santa Anna, Texas, said neighbors in her primarily Moslem apartment building had been "wonderful to me." She expressed concern about the conception of many Americans that "everyone turns on everyone else here." On the contrary, she said, people are trying to help each other.

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## State WMU to meet in Hattiesburg

The 105th annual meeting of Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union is scheduled for March 19-20 at First Baptist Church, Hattiesburg.

Presiding will be Mrs. Robert P. Dent Sr., state president from Holly Springs.

Speaking during the convention will be Carolyn Weatherford, executive director.



Weatherford



Allen



Carpenter

tor, Woman's Missionary Union, Southern Baptist Convention, and Mrs. Bruce (Laura) Allen, national consultant in evangelism among women, Home Mission Board, Southern Baptist Convention.

Meditation periods at each of the four sessions will be led by Kathryn Carpenter, executive director, Louisiana Woman's Missionary Union.

Music will be directed by Ellen Roweton, of Bolivar, Missouri. Mrs. Roweton, the mother of three children, led the music and sang for the WMU Convention in Pittsburgh last summer and also was soloist and led the music for Dayspring, which was the conference for women jointly sponsored by the Foreign and Home Mission Boards and WMU.

Other features will include "How to pray for missionaries..." at each of the sessions; recognition of parents of Mississippi missionaries; panel of MKs from the Hattiesburg area; special emphasis on the "Year of the Cooperative Program"; and a visual report of the work of Mississippi WMU during the past year.

Speaking on one of the ways Southern Baptists minister in a loving way will be Mary Dan Kuhnle, director of Sellers Baptist Home, in New Orleans. Missionary prayer breakfasts, with light refreshments available, will be held on Tuesday morning.

WMU's theme for the year, "Partnership in Prayer and Ministry" will be emphasized during the four-session convention. A new president will be elected to head the missions education organization for women, girls, and pre-school boys and girls in Mississippi on Monday evening.

Monday and Tuesday evening sessions will be interpreted for the deaf.

Peter McLeod is host pastor for the convention and Mrs. Peggy Huey is general chairman of arrangements.

# What makes New Testament church? Evangelism/Bible speakers explain

By Tim Nicholas

Two of the speakers at the Mississippi Baptist Evangelism/Bible Conference last week at First Church, Gulfport, commented on what prevents a church from being a New Testament church.

"Can you really be sincere about calling yourself a New Testament church if you've never tried to start a new church?" asked Delos Miles, associate professor of evangelism at Southeastern Seminary.

Keith Parks, president of the Foreign Mission Board, told the group that "churches that are not reaching out evangelistically are not New Testament churches."

Upwards of 1,400 persons were in attendance at sessions of the annual preaching and Bible study conference sponsored by the Sunday School and Evangelism departments of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. The meeting is primarily attended by ministers and this year featured 10 sermons and studies, plus 10 special interest conferences.

Besides Miles and Parks, featured speakers included Ron Dunn, Harold Branch, and Jay Strack.

Parks, who heads the missions organization that employs missionaries in 102 countries, lamented, "We as Baptists have done such a good job of emphasizing the local church, but have forgotten it is local

only in locality and autonomy, but worldwide in responsibility."

Parks said that when Jesus wanted to be sure the kingdom came, he gave to all of his disciples the responsibility "to preach the gospel to every human being on the face of the earth."

He noted that "We have become so concerned about taking care of ourselves we have forgotten we are not supposed to take care of ourselves." He added, "what most of us are doing doesn't require God's power to keep the machinery running. We would need it (the power) if we ever become serious about winning the world."

Parks said that God will give his power to anyone who will use it for his purposes. He said he believes "God has laid his hands on the people called Southern Baptist" placing them in a position to win the world. He asked, "Suppose we don't do it?"

Miles, in his comments about starting new churches, explained that "we have thousands upon thousands" of churches, but need twice that many to evangelize America. "It's better to start a new church where it's needed than continuing to build up one local church."

Ron Dunn, a Texas evangelist, wondered aloud in one of his messages about the label "Christian." He said that "Christian was a label at-

tached to the early church members by the outside world. Dunn mused that perhaps the church should withhold the term Christian from any convert until somebody on the outside observed them and called them that.

Dunn discussed what made the church at Antioch (where the Bible says Christians were first thus called) worthy of the name Christian. He said they were always speaking about someone named Christ, they manifested the spirit of Christ, and they suffered for Christ. "They could have been discreet, but they weren't," said Dunn.

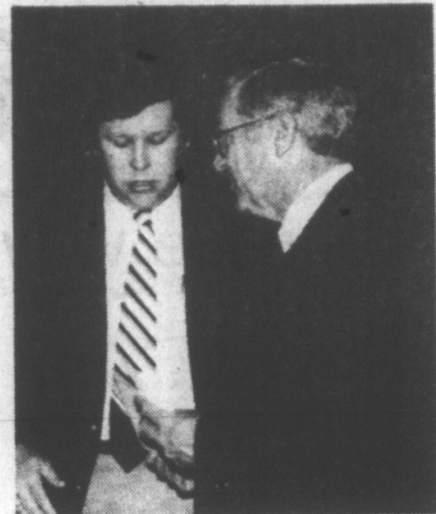
In another message, Dunn spoke on spiritual gifts. He said gifts are given by God "by virtue of the fact that we are saved" and that the gifts are supernatural.

Harold Branch, pastor of St. Johns Church, Corpus Christi, Tex., suggested that in using Christ as a model of church growth, "We've led a whole lot of people astray trying to demand of them to be born grown."

He suggested that pastors get "the lepers" to help win the lost. He said when Jesus healed the lepers, they "were brought back from the nearly dead," and "by tradition they were dead, hopeless, forsaken, and they escaped their tradition and they went back to town... they convinced folks

that something had happened... that a change had taken place." Branch said that converts to Christianity have this same kind of feeling.

Jay Strack, pastor of Riverside Church, Ft. Myers, Fla., talked about barriers to church growth. He said barriers include lack of an anointing from God, lack of proper attitude, lack of an open atmosphere, and lack of apologetics. "It takes more anointing of God daily if I'm going to be the kind of pastor I want to be," said



Jay Strack, Ft. Myers pastor, talks with Guy Henderson, evangelism director, who, along with Keith Wilkinson of the Sunday School Department, organized the conference.

Strack. How does one know when the anointing is gone? Strack asked. When anointing is gone, he said, a preacher will preach a little louder, a little longer, hit the pulpit a little harder, and preach on controversial issues.

## Missions via satellite

By Carol Sisson

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP)—More than 2,130 mission-minded men and women across the United States were linked together via satellite Feb. 4, for the Southern Baptist Convention's first home mission teleconference.

A joint effort of Woman's Missionary Union, SBC, and the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, the live teleconference originated in Birmingham, Ala., and was broadcast to 10 sites across the nation.

"This teleconference affords the opportunity to have both inspiration and information immediately at our fingertips," said William G. Tanner, HMB president.

The teleconference format included live interviews with Tanner and WMU Executive Director Carolyn Weatherford. Jay Durham, director of the media department at the HMB, was moderator.

Discussion between Tanner and Weatherford focused on home mission efforts, both past and present, with major emphasis on the 1984 Week of Prayer for Home Missions

and the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering.

Audiences at the 10 sites became part of the discussion with questions phoned in to the Birmingham studio.

Hearing these facts brings the March 4-11 Week of Prayer and the \$29 million Annie Armstrong Easter Offering goal into sharper focus, Weatherford said.

The 10 teleconference sites were: Birmingham, Ala.; Phoenix, Ariz.; Atlanta; Lexington, Ky.; Detroit; Kansas City, Mo.; Greensboro, N.C.; Memphis, Tenn.; Dallas-Fort Worth; and Richmond, Va.

(Sisson writes for WMU, SBC.)

## Homecomings

Lula Church (Riverside Association): first homecoming; March 4; Henning Andrews, a former pastor, morning preacher; other former pastors in attendance; 10:30 a.m. worship service to be followed by a fellowship meal; "remembering service" in the afternoon, ending at 3; Bob Parsley, pastor.

## Executive Committee

# S. American Crusade in '85

A major evangelistic crusade in Argentina and Uruguay in 1985 will involve at least 200 Mississippi volunteers who will travel to those South American countries to prepare churches for revival, according to Earl Kelly, executive secretary-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. Kelly announced the plan to the February meeting of the MBCB Executive Committee which took place at First Church, Gulfport, prior to the state Evangelism/Bible Conference last week.

Volunteer involvement in the crusades will include training in Baptist doctrines, witness training, and revival preparation for all pastors and committees including Prayer for Spiritual Awakening, a revival preparation process.

Argentina and Uruguay, along with Paraguay, are the three countries of the Rio de la Plata, with whom Mississippi Baptists have cooperative missions agreements through the middle of next year.

In board business, the Executive Committee approved expenditure of funds to prepare for asbestos re-

moval from the Baptist Student Union center at Mississippi State, and allocated \$12,000 to aid in purchase of a house to be used as a BSU center at Northwest Junior College. Kelly explained that though the Student Center Capital Needs program was due to cease functioning, several needs in student center work still exist and that the Northwest Junior College appropriation would be coming out of the Fund Balance.

Art Nelson, retiring this year as business manager of the MBCB, in his pre-audit report to the committee, noted that a total of \$491,763.08 was earned by the board in short term investments of capital. In the short time between when money comes into the board offices, and the time it goes out to missions and education programs, the board invests the money rather than letting it sit in bank accounts drawing no interest.

The Committee elected Jimmy Porter of First Church, Louisville to fill the unexpired term of board member James Gibson of Louisville. Charles Bagwell of Columbus was named to chair the Business Advi-

ory Committee.

Kelly had entered in the minutes that a discretionary account of designated funds would include \$500 for Eastern European pastors, \$1,000 for ministerial relief and assistance, and \$7,120 for Kelly and his wife Marjorie to travel to India and Africa during Kelly's vacation to do lecturing, and for the Rio de la Plata project.

Other expenditures approved by the committee included \$30,000 to replace 16-year old chairs in the Baptist Building; \$32,086 for drapes, laundry equipment, auditorium boiler, a word processing printer, sidewalk sweeper, screens, and repair for freeze damage, all for Gulfshore Baptist Assembly; \$2,500 for a printer for the Baptist Record; \$8,500 for a new postage machine, \$8,500 for a used collator with a new warranty, \$15,000 for redecorating corridors and office suites at the Baptist Building, \$4,500 to repair the east exterior wall bruised by roof installation, and \$2,500 for a computer terminal in Kelly's office.

The committee approved four pastors in four counties for pastoral aid.

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# Faces And Places

by anne washburn mcwilliams

## Elizabeth Draughon Yates

During the years that Mrs. Eleanor Smith was working in the Baptist Record office, I often heard her refer to Elizabeth Draughon, who had been editorial assistant, 1944-48, during the time that Dr. A. L. Goodrich was editor.

When Elizabeth's husband, O. W. Yates, a minister, wrote a book several years ago, I reviewed it, and began corresponding with Elizabeth, who lives in Lexington, Ky. (Dr. Yates died in 1981.)

Because February is the "birthday month" of the Baptist Record, her account of experiences in Jackson of the late 40s is being printed as a sort of slice of Baptist Record history. (See p. 2). The Record was born in 1877.

I asked Elizabeth to tell me a little about her early years, before her move to Jackson, and thus I learned that she grew up in First Baptist Church of Dunn, N. C. She said she knows of at least 10 ministers and three women from that church who attended Southern Seminary and/or WMU Training School, which is now merged with that seminary. Among these were C. C. Warren, late pastor and SBC president, and his sister, Mary Warren Stevens, at one time North Carolina WMU director.

Perry Morgan, Sunday School director at that church for many years, left to become "BYPU secretary" for the state and later Sunday School director and then director of Ridgecrest Assembly.

"We had good spiritual leadership at First Church, Dunn, and Bible preaching, also a training program which encouraged our young people to seek and follow the leading of the Holy Spirit.

"My parents were church going folk," Elizabeth wrote, "my mother as much as she could with five children and when her health permitted. My father was a deacon and trustee.

"They asked me to teach ten-year-old girls in Sunday School when I was 17. I would not recommend it, but it was a good experience for me.

"Having been a premature baby and surviving through the loving tender care of my parents, even all childhood diseases, I somehow felt

the providence of the Lord, and that he had a plan for my life. My first commitment was while a teen-ager. I did not know where he would lead, but I wanted to follow his call."

She and all her sisters attended University of North Carolina at Greensboro; three of them were graduated and became teachers.

During college years she was active in BSU and attended YWA camps and BSU retreats at Ridgecrest. "Miss Naomi Schell, missionary to Japan, came to my college, then NCCW, to complete her degree work—it helped her 'save face' among the Japanese. She was a wonderful friend and a good influence on me."

Her mother died the summer after Elizabeth's graduation. "Then the Depression hit and living was hard." After one year of teaching and responsibilities at home, Elizabeth took her savings and entered WMU Training School. She was graduated in 1932—no church job available.

"But I did return to teaching," she recalls, "and later went to a local high school to study typing, shorthand, and business, so I could qualify as a church secretary."

For five years she worked from three to 13 weeks as a summer missionary with the Sunday School Department of North Carolina Baptists, and later for two summers in Vacation Bible School associational work with rural pastors. "Our pay was ten dollars a week, payable at the end of the summer."

Five years of teaching were not lost. "My years of grading English and Latin papers, directing school debates, plays, and banquets were helpful in every endeavor in the following years, in what we term full-time Christian service."

On Jan. 20, 1939, she began work as financial secretary at Lexington Avenue Church, Danville, Ky. "I was the staff. There was my pastor, Rev. Elwyn N. Wilkinson, and Les, the janitor, and me. My pastor loved people and was a visiting minister. He and my late husband, O. W. Yates, were the two best I have ever seen in making personal visits in homes."

In five and a half years at Danville she worked with WMU, taught coed class of students from Centre College, and helped plan socials which included as guests many of the air cadets then enrolled at Centre. "We entertained the Kentucky Training Union Convention in April 1943. No one thought anyone would come, because of the gas shortage, but they came."

Something of her four years in Mississippi and of her later marriage to a pastor are told in a guest editorial on page 2. Two of her sisters have died; two live in North Carolina. Also she has four nieces, two nephews, and a great-granddaughter, Amy Shaw, who was born in Texarkana, Ark.

I'm glad to know more about a predecessor of mine who helped to mold the Baptist Record in the 1940s.

## Church music history

Editor:

The year 1985 will be a time of celebration for the Church Music Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention. Church music was organized on the state level 40 years ago in 1945 by the first full-time music secretary, Luther Harrison. In 1950, W. C. Morgan became the director of the department, followed by the present secretary, Dan C. Hall, in 1964. "Celebration '85" has been chosen as the theme for the 40th anniversary.

The record of these 40 years of church music history is going to be written and printed by the Church Music Department, publication date November 1984. Several outstanding resource persons are working on this project. Among them are Dr. James C. Downey, Mrs. Inez Crocker, Mrs. Edward Pryor, and Mrs. Donald Winters. They will be building on research done previously by Anne McWilliams, editorial associate for the Baptist Record.

Information regarding church music in Mississippi before the organization of the state Music Department will also be included.

The final chapter will be a recounting of the planned "Celebration '85" events.

If you have any information, photos, printed programs, or newspaper clippings regarding this subject, you are invited to share them with the resource group by contacting the Church Music Department, Box 530, Jackson, Miss. 39205.

This is an exciting time for Mississippi Baptists as we recognize this 40th anniversary and the people that worked to make it a reality.

Gwin Hitt  
Compiler and editor of *The History of Baptist Church Music in Mississippi*

## Women's song book

Editor:

If any of your readers have access to or know where I might be able to get a copy or copies of the "Broadman Songs for Women" numbers 1 and 2, I would be most grateful. The book was compiled by Alta C. Faircloth, copyright number 483-18715.

I shall look forward to hearing from someone who might be able to help us secure these special books of sacred hymn arrangements.

Gratefully yours,  
Emma McNeill  
210 Metts St.  
Louisville, MS 39339

## Youth Congress scholarships

Editor:

I have been keenly interested in the Baptist World Alliance and its programs for many, many years.

The Youth Conference of the B.W.A. will be held July, 1984, in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

The Alliance has devised a plan to make it possible for young people from many nations to attend.

# Letters to the Editor

I am enclosing information concerning this plan.

I earnestly feel that these youths have the potential of wielding a great influence in their native lands.

I sincerely hope that many persons and churches in your state convention will support the plan.

Thank you very much.  
J. B. Hickman  
Augusta, GA

Mr. Hickman enclosed a plea from the Baptist World Alliance for scholarships for young people who would like to go to the Baptist World Youth Congress July 12 to 15 in Buenos Aires. Also he enclosed a package plan from Bryan Tours on transportation and housing.—Editor

## A need in Ohio

Editor:

We are attempting to reach our county for Christ. We are located right on Lake Erie, 50 miles east of Cleveland. At this time we have three great needs which we would like to share with Southern Baptists.

First, we need old Sunday School, Church Training, and VBS literature. We do not use new material because we utilize our limited resources to reach people in our area. Many churches have excess or even used literature lying around, and we could use it.

The second great need is for at least 100 Adult Survival Kits for new Christians, 50 Youth Survival Kits, and 50 Children's Survival Kits.

Our third great need is for someone to respond to the call of our Dear Lord to come to Ashtabula to work with youth and music. We have no money to pay anyone. He would need to have outside financial support.

Ours is an area where industry is moving out and unemployment still stands at nearly 20 percent. Many families are moving south in search of work, but the people here are very responsive to the Good News of Jesus Christ.

We ask you to pray about these needs and respond as God should lead.

Mike Rasberry, pastor  
Community Baptist Church  
604 West 57th St.  
Ashtabula, Ohio 44004  
(216) 998-6622

## People in the pew

Editor:

I want to thank Bro. Jerry Mixon, for the article he wrote for *The Baptist Record* entitled "Clergy and Laity—A Fresh Look"; and, I want to thank Editor Don McGregor for publishing the material. My involvement in the study of the role of the laity is to stimulate thinking, writing, and dialogue. If Southern Baptists will think about this problem, write about it, and talk about it, much can be done about it.

A problem exists when there are five million non-resident Southern Baptists. A problem exists when of the 14 million Southern Baptists, not more than five million attend Sunday School and morning worship service, not more than two million attend evening worship, and perhaps only 750,000 attend prayer service.

Of the 36,000 Southern Baptist pastors, approximately 99 percent attend these services. Why not the same commitment from the people in the pew?

That is our problem and we need to write about it, talk about it, and think about it.

Owen Cooper  
Yazoo City

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Joy Morgan Davis, a speaker and writer, is known for her bookreviews and dramatic presentations. She resides in Dallas, Texas.

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## Lottie Moon gifts

The Woman's Missionary Union of Union Church in Webster County, organized in 1978, with 15 members now, set a goal of \$1,200 for the 1983 Lottie Moon Offering. Their efforts in promoting this offering produced \$2,026 in total contributions from the church. Howard Davis is pastor at Union Church, which has 75 members.

# Reagan in 'full-court press' on school prayer amendment

By Stan Hastey

WASHINGTON (BP)—President Reagan and members of his staff and cabinet are preparing for a "full-court press" during February to have Congress pass an amendment to the Constitution restoring oral prayer in public school classrooms, according to Newt Gingrich.

Gingrich, an arch-conservative Republican member of the House of Representatives from Georgia, told two dozen evangelical pastors and student leaders Feb. 10 the upcoming debate over school prayer is "a collective battle of everyone in the world of (the) spirit against the forces of materialism."

Gingrich, a Southern Baptist from Carrollton, Ga., said the fight in the U.S. Senate will be led by fellow conservative William L. Armstrong, R-Colo.

Senate majority leader Howard H. Baker Jr., R-Tenn., announced Feb. 8 the Senate will consider the school prayer issue shortly after its return Feb. 21 from a brief recess.

According to Gingrich, Baker scheduled the prayer debate early in the year because of his judgment that upcoming debate over the federal budget "will dissolve the Senate into chaos."

Gingrich also said his own head count of the Senate on Reagan's amendment shows 64 or 65 votes in favor, with 67, or two-thirds of all 100 senators, needed for passage. Other estimates of the likely outcome show considerably less support for the Reagan proposal.

David Hoppe, an aide to House Republican whip Trent Lott, R-Miss., told the gathering if the president's amendment loses in the Senate it will not be considered by the House. He added a Senate defeat would probably mean "it won't come up again in the Senate for years and years."

Before the meeting with Gingrich, a larger group of the ministers and students met at the White House with presidential assistants who told them Reagan will settle for nothing less than his own amendment. They expressed the president's opposition to a competing amendment, proposed by Sen. Orrin G. Hatch, R-Utah, which would enshrine in the Constitution pupils' rights to a moment of silence at the beginning of the school day.

The Hatch amendment would also give students access to school property and facilities for religious meetings on an equal basis with other student groups.

Presidential assistant Steve Galibach told the group the Hatch amendment "is out of line and not a serious possibility," and added: "The Supreme Court has never said silent prayer is unconstitutional... the Hatch amendment is an amendment to reverse a Supreme Court decision the court hasn't made yet."

Another Reagan aide, Carolyn Sundseth, said the president's amendment would resolve both the "equal access problem" and the

"voluntary prayer problem."

Galibach said he hopes Hatch and Baker, who recently introduced a third amendment on school prayer, will decide to withdraw their proposals in favor of Reagan's.

Bob Riley, another White House official who addressed the group, declared, "There will be an all-out effort by the White House to push this amendment," including telephone calls from Reagan and members of his cabinet to "reluctant" senators.

Sundseth, who recently replaced Morton C. Blackwell as assistant to the president for White House relations with evangelical and fundamentalist groups, said Reagan's

amendment would forbid states from composing the words of prayers to be recited but would permit states to pass laws requiring prayers be said.

Those attending the meeting were also given a White House document stating in part, "The Amendment leaves decisions regarding prayers to state or local school authorities, and to individuals."

Additionally, according to the document, "It would establish no uniform national prayer rule, but would allow a diversity of state and local approaches free of federal interference."

(Stan Hastey writes for the Baptist Joint Committee.)

## Queens' Court theme: prayer and ministry

A special weekend is planned for all Acteens who have completed one level of **Studiact: Individual Achievement Plan** since the last time they attended Mississippi Acteens Queens' Court. This event will be held at Camp Garaywa, Clinton, Mar. 2-4. Registration begins at 5 p.m., Friday. The first meeting will begin at 7 and the weekend conclude at noon, Sunday.

Special guests will include Tom and Gloria Thurman, missionaries to Bangladesh, along with Charles and Indy Whitten, missionaries to Spain. Myrna Loy Hedgepeth, soloist and

youth Bible speaker from Jackson, and Cathy Irby Diaz, a vocalist and keyboard artist will be leading in music and worship.

The theme will be "Partnership in Prayer and Ministry," with activities designed for celebration, fellowship, inspiration, and challenge.

Acteens should bring the following items in addition to the normal retreat type attire: a long dress, Studiact regalia, (crowns, scepters, capes), towels, linens, Bible, pen, and pad.

Cost for the weekend is \$28 per person. Reservations are due by Feb. 27, and not refundable after that time. For more information contact D. P. Smith, Box 530, Jackson, Miss., 39205.



The Thurmans



Hedgepeth

Diaz



The Whittens

## Commissioning choir to rehearse April 10

The story in last week's **Baptist Record** concerning the 1,000-voice choir for the Foreign Mission Board commissioning service had an error in the date.

The actual date of the service and of the choir's rehearsal will be April 10. The story said the date would be April 9. Instead, April 9 is the date of a banquet for interested persons at the coliseum. The banquet will have on hand the missionaries, and FMB personnel and board members. Tickets for the banquet will be \$15 per person and are available from the of-

fice of Earl Kelly, executive secretary-treasurer, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, Box 530, Jackson, Miss., 39205.

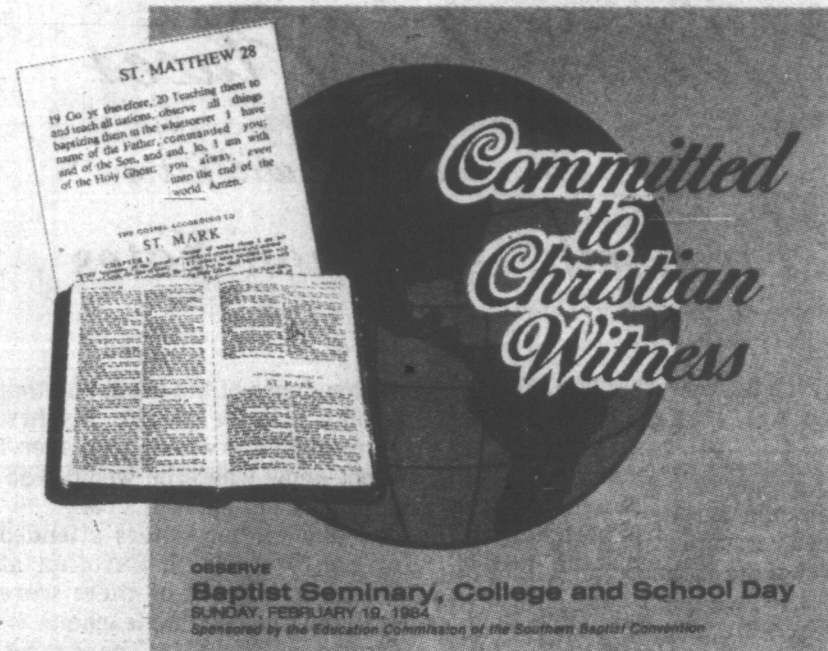
The mass choir will rehearse at 5 p.m. on April 10, the date of the appointment service.

Pre-service music will begin at 6:40 p.m.

For further information concerning participation in the mass choir, contact Leon Bedsole, minister of music, First Baptist Church, Box 145, Biloxi, Miss., 39533, phone 374-3310.

## Mississippi Baptist Activities

- Feb. 19-22 Home Mission Study (WMU Emphasis)
- Feb. 24-25 Church Recreation Mini-Lab; FBC, Jackson; 6 p.m., 24th-4 p.m., 25th (CT)
- Feb. 25 State Keyboard Festival; Mississippi College, Newton Campus; 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. (CM)



## Sarajevo police dampen Baptist Olympic ministry

SARAJEVO, Yugoslavia (BP)—Government authorities held a Yugoslav Baptist leader for questioning for three hours on the opening day of the Winter Olympics in Sarajevo, Yugoslavia.

In addition, permission for Baptists to distribute materials to visitors to the Games was abruptly withdrawn after being granted just one day earlier.

Police came to a coffeehouse set up at Sarajevo Baptist Church after Yugoslav Baptists and five Southern Baptist representatives had spent a day handing out leaflets inviting Olympic visitors to drop by. Authorities ordered them to collect all the materials previously distributed. The Baptists retraced their steps to pick up the leaflets in hotels and other public places around the city.

The coffeehouse will be allowed to remain open during the 12-day Olympic events but fewer people are likely to find the nine-member church without the leaflets.

The Baptist representatives had taken as much tea and coffee into the country as they were allowed and

planned to maintain an informal music/conversation station at the coffeehouse. They include Tom Stallworth and Jim Smith, Austria; Charles Thomas, France; Albert Craighead, Italy; and Paul Thibodeaux, Yugoslavia.

"We are staying in Sarajevo," Stallworth said. "We can witness to our faith in conversation if we are careful."

In response to a request from Yugoslav Baptists, the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board provided \$6,000 for repairs to the Sarajevo church to help it establish a witnessing point during the games. The work included painting and installing a new heating system.

Two Yugoslav Baptist pastors also are helping in an ecumenical Christian center in Olympic Village.

Evelyn Benfield is the Southern Baptist missionary press representative in Austria.

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### "We're going with Jimmy, how about you?"

Minette Drumwright, widow of Huber Drumwright & SBC Foreign Mission Board; James Coggins, retired Pastor, Travis Avenue Baptist Church; Dr. Bill Tolar, Dean, Southwestern Baptist Seminary; Dr. William Bell, Professor, Dallas Baptist College; Joe Hester, Associate Pastor, Cottage Hill Baptist Church, Mobile, Alabama; Monroe Broadway, Pastor, First Southern Baptist Church, Redding, California; Rick Markham, Pastor, First Baptist Church, Perry, Oklahoma; Dr. Lacoste Munn, Professor, Southwestern Baptist Seminary.

WHO: Dr. Jimmy Draper, Dr. Bill Tolar, Minette Drumwright, Jim Coggins.

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## Group formed to watch moral issues in state

A newly organized group established to keep an eye on moral issues in Mississippi has protested a bill in the Legislature that would establish a lottery in the state and has come out in support of a bill that would raise the age for drinking beer and light wine from the present 18 to 21.

The organization is Mississippi Agency for Social Issues and Problems and will be known by a shortened version—Miss-A-Sip. The president of the organization is Robert H. Jackson, pastor of First Church, Brandon; and the executive secretary is John E. Ashley, an educator who has been executive director of Mississippi Association of Educators.

Jackson said the organization would be operated by a board of directors that would represent churches of various denominations and civic leaders "who would feel a kindred spirit with those who are concerned with the moral values in our state." They said the need was felt when it was noted that there was no one organization in the state that could "pull together the broad spectrum of Christians of the many denominations as well as the business and professional people and members

of community organizations who have a like mind on the pressing social issues." He noted that he hoped the organization "would enable such a gathering of people to focus their common interests and actions on the issues that affect our communities and our state."

"We hope to have the cooperation of a large segment of our state," he said. The organization will have four functions, he added. They are to serve as a depository of information, to serve as a watchdog on the Legislature, to develop and implement a drug and alcohol education program, and to provide organizational assistance in wet-dry issues when called on.

## Home missions frontiers call for new approaches

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—Creativity and innovation are musts if Southern Baptists are to reach people for Jesus Christ in a world full of increasingly specialized and ever changing new frontiers, according to William G. Tanner.

Tanner, president of the Home Mission Board, will be one of 14 million Southern Baptists spending March 4-11 in special prayer for home missions.

"New Visions, New Frontiers," is

the theme for this year's annual week of prayer.

"Without a Christian conviction to move beyond the ordinary, many, if not most, of our nation's people will not be reached for our Lord," Tanner said.

Renewed commitment to home missions is needed today because it is becoming more and more difficult, time consuming, and, perhaps, even unpopular to include "outsiders."

These people are found outside the

walls of our church building, outside our lifestyles, or outside our social group, Tanner said.

"Great strides have been made by some churches to reach all people in their community in the face of racial, cultural and social prejudices, but much remains to be accomplished," Tanner said.

A revitalized commitment must also manifest itself in the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering. Last year receipts fell approximately \$2.4 million short of the \$25 million goal. This deficit did not decrease need.

The 1984 offering goal is \$29,000,000. Offering receipts will be used to support missionaries and field ministries in the United States, its territories and parts of Canada.

The Home Mission Board supports more than 3,430 missionaries to serve in all 50 states, American Samoa, Puerto Rico, American Virgin Islands and Canada. The HMB also provides resources for and equips churches and associations to minister to their own community.

## Loneliness in loss is topic

"Loneliness in The Loss Of A Loved One" is the topic of the annual Pastoral Care of the Ill seminar at Mississippi Baptist Medical Center's Gilfooy Building Auditorium March 1, 9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.

The chief resource speaker will be Myron C. Madden, immediate past president of counseling and pastoral care at Southern Baptist Hospital in New Orleans. Madden's topics will be "Loneliness and Bonding," "Loneliness and Grief," and

"Loneliness and Creativity."

Other speakers include Earl Kelly, executive secretary of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board; Marjorie Kelly, speaker, writer, and former missionary; and Fred Womack, pastor at Wildwood Church, Clinton.

The seminar is free and open to the public. Free parking is available on Carlisle Street which is adjacent to the Jackson Bone and Joint Clinic and a half block from the auditorium. Each participant will be responsible for his own lunch.

The annual seminar is organized each year by MBMC, the Christian Action Commission, and the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

## Missions tabloid set

In conjunction with the April 10 foreign missions commissioning service at the Gulf Coast coliseum in Biloxi, a special tabloid insert is being printed in the combined Sunday edition of the Sun and the Daily Herald.

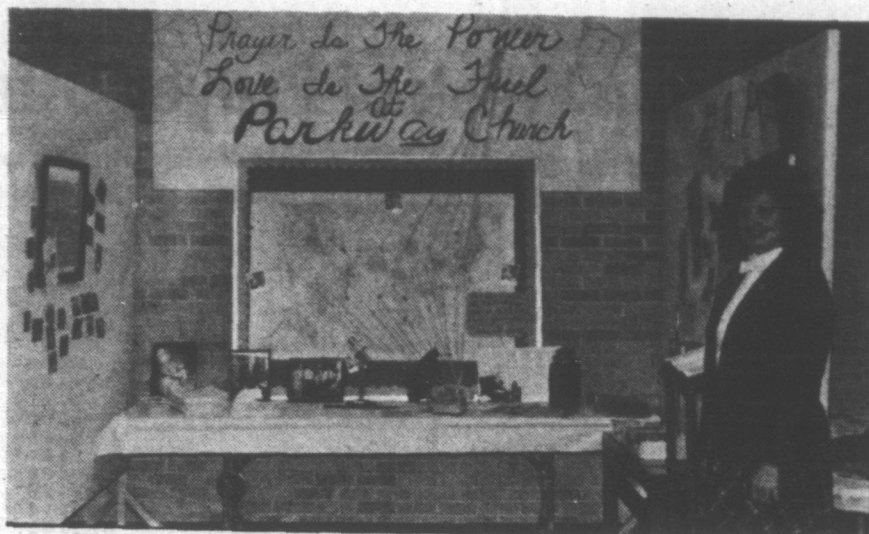
The tabloid insert will be paid for by purchase of advertising by churches and interested individuals.

This insert will go to the homes of approximately 53,000 families who

subscribe to the papers and will tell about Southern Baptists and their foreign missions efforts.

The insert will also be distributed free to all persons who attend the commissioning service.

Bernie Marinovich, general advertising manager for the papers, reports that he will require prepayment by all advertisers and that those interested in advertising may contact him at 896-2395 in Biloxi.



### Ministry of prayer

Myrna Loy Hedgepeth, above, designed and constructed a booth for the Evangelism Explosion experience at Parkway Church, Jackson. Mrs. Hedgepeth designed her booth around the prayer ministry of W. R. Storie, who is a member of the church. A Baptist Record article by Anne McWilliams, Baptist Record staff member, concerning the ministry of Storie was a part of the presentation of the booth.

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 7  
Thursday, February 16, 1984

## Day camp workshop set

A Missions Day Camping Workshop is set for Saturday, Mar. 14 at Camp Garaywa in Clinton. The program will take place 10 a.m. until 2 p.m., according to D. P. Smith, consultant in the Woman's Missionary Union of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, which sponsors the event.

Purpose of the workshop is to train church and associational workers to conduct day camps for children ages 6-11. Sessions include training in how to train a staff, nature crafts and camp crafts, mission study activities, games and music, and units of study including Brazil, Spain, the deaf, India, and Internationals.

Registration deadline is Mar. 14 and the program costs \$3.25 for lunch and insurance.

For more information, contact Miss Smith at Box 530, Jackson, Miss., 39205.

Bereavement is a dispensation of God; what he gives in his goodness he has a right to take away in his wisdom.—H. F. Burder



## What does it mean to me?

By I. L. Foster Jr.

My membership has been in Prentiss Baptist Church since I became a Christian. This church has been a great mission minded church and for that reason has become a great mission giving church.

I have been exposed to sermons from the pulpit on the importance of giving through the Cooperative Program.

I have seen two daughters of a former pastor actually go to the foreign mission fields. I have heard many missionaries tell of heartwarming experiences of how much the Cooperative Program means to them.

I have seen first hand what our Baptist hospital can mean to a patient and family through Christian physicians, Christian nurses, and through an atmosphere that says, "We Care."

I have been involved personally in missions as a Volunteer. I just wish every person could go as a volunteer to missions areas and see the needs. I have been privileged to work for some of the Mississippi Convention Board ministries and these, in turn, reach out to the people in our state.

Yes, there is no doubt in my mind that as I consider how the Cooperative Program dollar reaches out to help others—and me—that the Cooperative Program is the best way.

(Ingram Foster is a member of the MCB Executive Committee.)

Any churches interested in bringing a group of high school/college age youth to Florida to help with our BACKYARD BIBLE CLUBS should contact Dorothy Stubbs, First Baptist Church, P. O. Drawer P, Winter Park, Florida 32790.

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# WMU State Mission Week of Prayer Offering Reaches \$409,235

The gifts to State Missions Week of Prayer (Margaret Lackey) are listed as received from September 1, 1983 through January 31, 1984 with 998 churches participating. At that time total gifts amounted to \$409,235.00.

<b>ADAMS</b>		<b>CLAY</b>		<b>FBC TERRY</b>		<b>W' ELLISVILLE</b>		<b>CAMP CREEK</b>	
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IMMANUEL	962.00	WEST END	433.45	HILLCREST	5.00	<b>KEMPER</b>		FBC SHANNON	486.80
SOUTHERN HILLS	85.00		2,511.25	LAKESHORE	551.00	BAY SPRINGS	64.00	FBC TUPELO	205.00
WASHINGTON	1,218.35	<b>COPIAH</b>		LEARNED	395.00	BLACKWATER	466.00	FBC VERONA	2,820.21
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<b>ALCORN</b>		COUNTY LINE	260.00	MORRISON HEIGHTS	3,448.91	DEKALB	439.00	MACEDONIA	1,012.75
ANTIOCH	120.00	FBC CRYSTAL SPGS	3,100.50	NORTHMINSTER	50.00	SALEM	200.00	MT VERNON	54.00
EAST CORINTH	71.00	FBC HAZLEHURST	1,257.10	OAK FOREST	4,447.24	SCOOBA	340.00	NEW HOPE	250.00
FBC CORINTH	1,476.25	GALILEE	50.00	PARK HILL	288.76	WAHALAK	80.00	PALMETTO	270.28
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SECOND KOSCIUSKO	34.00	UNION SOUTH	200.00	WEST	72.00	CENTER GROVE	50.00	FBC BROOKHAVEN	100.00
SPRINGDALE	45.00	WILLOW GROVE	65.00		2,216.65	CRESCENT HILL	150.00	FRIENDSHIP	1,887.34
UNITY	113.25	<b>FRANKLIN</b>		<b>HUMPHREY</b>		EASTVIEW	79.00	HEUCKS RETREAT	507.00
WILLIAMSVILLE	162.00	CONCORD	136.34	FBC BELZONI	1,010.00	EIGHT AVE	188.25	HOLLY SPRINGS	9.00
YOCKANOOKANY	25.00	FBC BUDE	909.47	FBC ISOLA	292.00	FBC COLLINSVILLE	60.00	LITTLE BAHALA	252.00
	4,000.32	HOPEWELL	175.80	SILVER CITY	400.00	FBC LAUDERDALE	288.65	MACEDONIA	388.53
<b>BENTON</b>		LUCIEN	217.00		1,702.00	FBC MARION	2,160.65	MONTGOMERY	160.10
ASHLAND	757.27	MEADVILLE	1,090.89	<b>ITAWAMBA</b>		FBC MERIDIAN	3,269.50	MT MORIAH	1,900.00
HICKORY FLAT	350.00	NEW SALEM	150.00	FAIRVIEW	75.00	FIFTEENTH AVE	1,249.00	MT PLEASANT	217.00
	1,107.27	PROVIDENCE	512.25	FBC FULTON	370.00	GOODWATER	130.00	NEW PROSPECT	514.71
<b>BOLIVAR</b>		ROXIE	59.87	LAKELAND	55.00	HEBRON	426.00	PLEASANT GROVE	1,231.00
BELLEVUE	25.00	SILOAM	418.00	SALEM	106.00	HIGHLAND	1,355.00	PLEASANT HILL	220.53
BENOIT	112.00	UNION	112.00	TRINITY	604.35	LIBERTY	55.00	SOUTHWAY	100.00
CHINESE	100.00		3,781.62		1,210.35	MACEDONIA	920.60	TOPISAW	52.00
DUNCAN	279.98	<b>GEORGE</b>		<b>JACKSON</b>		MIDWAY	105.00	UNION	25.00
FBC CLEVELAND	657.00	AGRICOLA	297.50	ARLINGTON HGTS	523.23	MT GILEAD	341.00	UNION HALL	175.00
FBC ROSEDALE	293.70	BARTON	109.25	BELLEFOUNTAIN	301.00	MT HOREB	547.93		9,318.67
GUNNISON	360.00	FBC LUCEDALE	755.00	E MOSS POINT	634.50	NEW HOPE	258.00		
IMMANUEL	613.08	ROCKY CREEK	2,275.65	EMMANUEL	143.00	NORTHCREST	420.25	<b>LOWNDES</b>	
PACE	170.00	SHADY GROVE	128.00	FBC ESCATAWPA	319.00	OAK GROVE	420.25	ANTIOCH	717.50
PROVIDENCE	210.00	SOUTHSIDE	16.05	FBC GAUTIER	855.35	OAKLAND HGTS	438.45	ARTESIA	150.00
SHAW	423.95		3,581.45	FBC HELENA	99.00	POPLAR SPGS DR	1,700.83	BETHEL	102.00
SKENE	15.00	<b>GREENE</b>		FBC MOSS POINT	115.00	RUSSELL	481.00	BORDER SPRINGS	169.00
YALE STREET	3,338.71	ANTIOCH	26.60	FBC OCEAN SPRING	728.80	SOUTHSIDE	972.50	CALVARY	456.00
<b>CALHOUN</b>		CEDAR GROVE	24.00	FBC ORANGE GRV	35.22	STATE BLVD	548.52	EASTEND	1,516.79
BANNER	81.00	FBC LEAKESVILLE	395.00	FBC PASCAGOULA	1,152.25	TOOMSUBA	601.00	FAIRVIEW	1,890.92
BETHANY	200.00	FBC MCCLAIN	215.00	FIRST INDIAN	35.00	WESTWOOD	399.00	FBC COLUMBUS	1,100.00
BRADFORDS CHAPEL	350.00	LEAF	100.00	GRACELAND	90.00		17,729.88	IMMANUEL	25.00
COLLEGE HILL	25.00	PINE LEVEL	91.00	HURLEY	100.00	<b>LAWRENCE</b>		MT VERNON	1,074.20
DERMA	132.25	SAND HILL	300.00	KREOLE AVE	280.00	ANTIOCH	208.30	MT ZION	359.00
DRIVERS FLAT	10.00	UNITY	58.00	LEMOYNE BLVD	137.87	BETHEL	193.00	NEW SALEM	8,308.02
ELLARD	21.00	W SALEM	63.06	PINE CREST	155.00	CALVARY	189.00		
FBC BRUCE	261.48		1,272.66	RED CRK UNION	10.00	CARMEL	23.00	<b>MARION</b>	
FBC CALHOUN CITY	1,229.35	<b>GRENADA</b>		RIVERSIDE	12.92	JAYESS	55.00	BUNKER HILL	422.50
FBC VARDAMAN	288.00	EMMANUEL	95.00	SOUTHSIDE	12.00	MONTICELLO	420.00	CALVARY	706.20
MT MORIAH	158.20	FBC GRENADA	1,325.08	TEMPLE	114.00	NEW HEBRON	951.63	CEDAR GROVE	300.00
OLD TOWN	103.00	GORE SPRINGS	70.00	WADE	684.50	NEW HOPE	235.00	CLEAR CREEK	85.00
PITTSBORO	218.00	HARDY	355.44	WOODHAVEN	110.00	NOLA	54.00	EAST COLUMBIA	220.00
PROVIDENCE	100.00	HEBRON	95.00		6,647.64	OAKVALE	185.00	EMMANUEL	160.10
ROCKY BRANCH	112.00	HOLCOMB	100.00	<b>JASPER</b>		OLD SILVER CREEK	25.00	FBC COLUMBIA	1,815.00
SABOUGLA	520.00	PROVIDENCE	131.00	BAY SPRINGS	1,249.11	PROVIDENCE	83.00	GOSS	393.00
SECOND CALHOUN	80.00	TEMPLE	15.48	LOON	250.00	SAULS VALLEY	95.00	HOLLY SPRINGS	222.45
SHILOH	210.61		2,187.00	FBC SHADY GROVE	430.00	SHILOH	338.75	HURRICAN CREEK	156.79
WESTSIDE	40.00	<b>GULF COAST</b>		FELLOWSHIP	250.00	WANILLA	28.00	IMPROVE	335.00
	4,139.89	BAY VISTA	660.00	HEIDELBERG	158.00		3,083.68	KOKOMO	34.00
<b>CARROLL</b>		BEL AIRE	398.15	LAKE COMO	534.14	<b>LEAKE</b>		N COLUMBIA	333.30
CARROLLTON	805.30	BIG LEVEL	40.00	LOUIN	215.00	ANTIOCH	208.30	NEW HOPE	658.00
LIBERTY	146.00	BROADMOOR	115.00	MONTRUSE	120.00	BETHEL	193.00	SHILOH	781.57
N CARROLLTON	623.00	BRODIE ROAD	45.00	NEW CONCORD	500.00	CALVARY	189.00	SPRING COTTAGE	300.00
PROVIDENCE	87.00	COMMISSION ROAD	207.46	NEW FELLOWSHIP	208.00	CARMEL	23.00		6,922.91
VAIDEN	347.00	DIAMONDHEAD	127.25	UNION BAPTIST	252.13	JAYESS	55.00	<b>MARSHALL</b>	
VALLEY HILL	180.00	EAST HOWARD	166.00		4,166.38	MONTICELLO	420.00	CAREY CHAPEL	397.00
	2,188.30	EASTSIDE	50.00	<b>JEFF-DAVIS</b>		NEW HEBRON	951.63	COLDWATER	283.67
<b>CHICKASAW</b>		EMMANUEL	116.95	ANTIOCH	158.00	NEW HOPE	235.00	FBC BYHALIA	336.00
BETHEL	162.00	FAITHVIEW	215.50	BETHANY	144.15	NEW PROVIDENCE	100.00	FBC HOLLY SPGS	1,925.00
FBC HOULKA	106.00	FBC BILOXI	1,413.67	EBENEZER	52.00	NEW ZION	44.00	FBC POTTS CAMP	221.33
FBC HOUSTON	640.50	FBC GULFPCKT	6,068.60	HEPZIBAH	25.00	ROCKY POINT	146.20	SLAYDEN	584.00
FBC OKOLONA	255.00	FBC LONG BEACH	910.60	OAK GROVE	542.00	SUNRISE	329.00		3,747.00
PLEASANT RIDGE	362.25	FBC LYMAN	37.50	PHALTI	145.00	THOMASTOWN	52.00	<b>MISSISSIPPI</b>	
SHILOH	96.00	FBC WIGGINS	165.00	PRENTISS	1,943.00	TRINITY	418.50	BERWICK	150.00
WOODLAND	40.00	GULF GARDENS	244.00	SOCIETY HILL	432.00	TUSCOLA	178.00	CENTERVILLE	234.50
	1,661.75	HANDSBORO	907.32	VICTORY	23.00	WALNUT GROVE	511.50	CROSBY	105.00
<b>CHOCTAW</b>		HIGHLAND MSN	40.00	WHITE SAND	665.00		3,167.50	E FORK	429.75
ACKERMAN	462.25	MICHAEL MEMORIAL	53.00		4,129.15	<b>LEBANON</b>		ENTERPRISE	75.00
CHESTER	290.00	NEW HOPE	92.00	<b>JONES</b>		CANTONVILLE	191.35	FBC GALILEE	912.00
FELLOWSHIP	165.12	NORTHWARD BAPT C	117.20	CENTERVILLE	27.98	DIXIE	624.00	GILLSBURG	575.00
FRENCH CAMP	224.33	PERKINSON	127.10	COUNTY LINE	109.00	EASTABUCHIE	84.34	GLADING	153.50
MT MORIAH	130.00	PINE VIEW	361.79	EASTVIEW	560.00	FBC GLENDALE	233.05	HEBRON	315.00
MT PISGAH	53.85	PRIM IGL BAU MSN	125.00	EMMANUEL	221.16	FBC HATTIESBURG	2,887.02	LIBERTY	1,439.94
NEW ZION	15.00	SHARON	15.60	FBC ELLISVILLE	1,335.36	FBC MCCLAIRIN	400.00	MARS HILL	249.00
WEIR	96.00	SHORELINE PARK	164.85	FBC LAUREL	2,153.77	FBC PETAL	130.73	MT OLIVE	585.00
	1,436.55	WOOLMARKET	82.00	FBC OVETT	260.00	GRACE CHAPEL	269.00	MT PLEASANT	171.00
<b>CLARKE</b>			13,066.50	FBC SHARON	221.00	GREENS CREEK	86.00	MT VERNON	515.00
CENTER RIDGE	113.25	<b>HINDS-MADISON</b>		FBC SOSO	200.00	MACEDONIA	116.00	OAK GROVE	77.50
DE SOTO	262.00	ALTA WOODS	85.00	FREEDOM	242.11	MAIN STREET	948.00	PIONEER	390.00
ELIM	172.58	BAPT FOUNDATION	1,265.96	GLADE	105.00	NINETEENTH AVE	205.25	THOMPSON	446.70
ENTERPRISE	371.60	BETHESDA	305.15	GRACE	198.00	PETAL HARVEY	805.23	WOODVILLE	1,105.10
FBC QUITMAN	1,877.25	BROADMOOR	5,784.00	HARMONY	290.00	PINEVIEW	350.15		7,928.99
FBC STONEWALL	280.60	BYRAM	274.60	HIGHLAND	211.00	PROVIDENCE	223.35	<b>MONROE</b>	
HARMONY	75.00	CAMDEN	10.00	INDIAN SPRINGS	201.80	RAWLS SPRINGS	50.00	ATHENS	400.00
MONT ROSE	165.00	CENTER TERRACE	500.00	MAGNOLIA	396.00	RIDGECREST	58.16	BETHEL	25.00
OAK GROVE	289.61	CHAPEL HILL	50.00	PLAINWAY	46.00	SOUTH 28TH AVE	847.00	CLEAR CREEK	148.05
PACHUTA	575.00	COLONIAL HEIGHTS	2,938.87	PLEASANT HOME	422.60	SUNRISE	357.59	FBC ABERDEEN	1,787.00
PINE HILL	140.00	DANIEL MEM	2,399.25	SALEM HEIGHTS	78.00	TEMPLE HATTIESBU	1,737.96	FBC AMORY	2,016.75
PLEASANT HILL	560.00	EDWARDS	169.74	SAND HILL	50.00	THIRTY EIGHT AVE	52.94		

<b>MONTGOMERY</b>		<b>PANOLA</b>		<b>QUITMAN</b>		<b>SUNFLOWER</b>		<b>WASHINGTON</b>	
DUCK HILL	167.00	CALVARY	207.00	BELEN	116.00	DREW	431.00	ARCOLA	20.00
FBC WINONA	2,014.71	COMO	700.00	CROWDER	1,637.06	EASTWOOD	85.00	CALVARY	332.50
KILMICHAEL	193.00	CRENSHAW	400.00	DARLING	238.16	FATVIEW	36.00	CHINESE MSN	40.00
NORTH WINONA	431.25	FBC BATESVILLE	1,841.00	FBC LAMBERT	555.00	FBC INDIANOLA	1,720.30	DARLOVE	421.60
PINE FOREST	110.00	FBC SARDIS	742.00	FBC MARKS	1,506.29	FBC INVERNESS	97.00	EMMANUEL	96.70
SHILOH	17.00	FIRST FAITH	125.00	FBC SLEDGE	192.25	LINN	105.00	FBC GREENVILLE	2,247.25
TRI-COUNTY	25.00	GOOD HOPE	241.00	W MARKS	401.25	MOORHEAD	205.00	FBC LELAND	2,334.32
UNITY	6.00	HEBRON	102.00		4,646.01	ROUNDWAY	80.00	GLENDAL	64.50
	2,963.96	IMMANUEL	20.00			RULEVILLE	910.70	GREENFIELD	258.00
<b>NESHOBA</b>		LIBERTY HILL	150.00	<b>RANKIN</b>		SUNFLOWER	234.00	HOLLANDALE	500.00
ANTIOCH	70.00	LOCKE STATION	94.63	BETHEL	234.00		3,904.00	PARKVIEW GREENVI	100.00
BEACON ST	379.00	PEACH CREEK	295.50	BRIAR HILL	665.50			SEC GREENVILLE	279.25
BEAT LINE	80.00	PILGRIMS REST	72.00	CASTLEWOODS	265.00	<b>TALLAHATCHIE</b>		SOUTHSIDE	374.08
BETHSAIDA	300.00	POPE	267.40	CATO	302.00	CORINTH	250.00	SWIFTWATER	97.00
COLDWATER	29.45	TOCOWA	100.00	CLEARY	950.19	FBC CHARLESTON	760.00	TRINITY	500.00
COUNTY LINE	100.00		5,357.53	COUNTY LINE	140.00	FBC SUMNER	375.00		7,665.20
E PHILADELPHIA	188.25	<b>PEARL RIVER</b>		CROSS ROADS	450.27	FBC TUTWILER	513.15		
FBC PHILADELPHIA	1,350.00	BETHEL	557.00	DAY STAR	200.00	MT PISGAH	16.68	<b>WAYNE</b>	
HOPE	147.00	FAITH MEMORIAL	40.00	DRY CREEK	100.00	PAUL	50.50	CALVARY	314.80
LAUREL HILL	92.00	FBC NICHOLSON	238.00	FBC BRANDON	1,828.80	PAYNES	106.53	CLEAR CREEK	40.00
LINWOOD	190.00	FBC PICAYUNE	1,114.48	FBC FLORENCE	790.73	SPRING HILL	160.00	COUNTY LINE	100.00
N CALVARY	135.00	FBC POPLARVILLE	1,319.00	FBC FLOWOOD	191.33	WEBB	552.50	EVERGREEN	119.70
NESHOBA	343.00	GOODYEAR	185.60	FBC PEARL	612.15		2,784.36	FAITH CHAPEL	250.00
NEW BETHEL	110.00	GUM POND	59.85	FBC RICHLAND	331.50			FBC BUCKATUNNA	725.00
OAK GROVE	600.00	HARMONY	40.00	LAKE HARBOR	57.54	<b>TATE</b>		FBC CLARA	250.00
OLD PEARL VALLEY	100.00	JUNIPER GROVE	141.00	LEESBURG	158.50	CONCORD	307.74	FBC STATE LINE	662.00
PINE GROVE	140.00	NEW PALESTINE	512.50	MCLAURIN HEIGHTS	60.00	FALKNER	798.96	FBC WAYNESBORO	1,038.45
SPRING CREEK	300.00	OLIVE	155.19	MEADOW GROVE	78.50	FBC RIPLEY	1,304.00	MT ZION	542.98
TRINITY	206.00	PARKVIEW CHAPEL	6.00	MT PISGAH	205.00	FELLOWSHIP	400.00	PLEASANT GROVE	318.00
WHITE OAK	85.00	PINE GROVE	331.00	MT ZION	125.00	HARMONY	325.98	STRENGTHFORD	200.00
	4,944.70	ROSELAND PARK	878.50	DAKDALE	94.00	LOWREY MEMORIAL	948.40	TRINITY	50.00
<b>NEW CHOCTAW</b>		SPRING HILL	300.00	PAUL TRUITT MEM	327.00	MT MORIAH	71.50	W SHADY GROVE	4,666.95
CANAAN	32.60	UNION	447.00	PEARSON ROAD	603.04	OAKLAND	430.60		
CORINTH	60.00	UNITY	150.00	PELAHATCHIE	803.55	PALMER	150.00		
MT ZION	17.20	WEST POPLARVILLE	62.50	PINELAKE	371.20	PROVIDENCE	250.00		
PINE BLUFF	63.00	WHITE SAND	404.13	PUCKETT	407.00	SPRINGDALE	174.25		
	172.80		6,941.75	REHOBETH	50.00	TIPLERSVILLE	234.09		
<b>NEWTON</b>		<b>PERRY</b>		ROBINHOOD	59.35	WEST RIPLEY	250.00		
BETHEL	150.00	ARLINGTON	84.00	STAR	172.00		5,645.52	<b>WINSTON</b>	
BEULAH	157.25	FBC BEAUMONT	75.00	SUNSHINE	262.22			BETHEL	144.67
CHUNKY	570.35	FBC NEW AUGUSTA	198.00	UNION	200.00	<b>TISHOMINGO</b>		CALVARY	353.00
CLARKE VENABLE	655.00	FBC RICHTON	983.00		295.82	BELMONT FIRST	110.00	ENON	25.00
CROSS ROADS	73.28	FBC RUNNELSTOWN	25.00	<b>RIVERSIDE</b>	11,391.19	CALVARY	300.00	FBC LOUISVILLE	1,791.40
EMMANUEL	25.00	JANICE	60.00	CLARKSDALE	1,126.34	CENTRAL	777.16	MARS HILL	59.18
FBC NEWTON	852.50		1,425.00	FBC TUNICA	657.19	EASTPORT	84.00	MURPHY CREEK	356.25
FBC UNION	1,525.00	<b>PIKE</b>		LULA	185.00	FBC BURNSVILLE	65.00	NOXAPATER	600.00
GOOD HOPE	94.00	BALA CHITTO	122.00	LYON	165.00	HIGHLAND	65.00	OAK GROVE	100.00
HICKORY	95.00	BLUFF SPRINGS	25.00	OAKHURST	1,694.54	IUKA	203.00	POPLAR FLAT	38.00
HOPEWELL	280.00	BOGUE CHITTO	109.00	RENA LARA	141.25	NEW PROSPECT	213.00	SHILOH	41.56
LAWRENCE	78.00	CALVARY	345.00		3,969.32	PADEN	151.00	SOUTH LOUISVILLE	189.47
LIBERTY	170.00	CENTRAL	828.40	<b>SCOTT</b>		SHORT CREEK	62.00	SOUTH RIDGE	238.00
MIDWAY	131.00	E MCCOMB	675.00	BETHEHEM	224.26	SOUTHWOOD	505.55		3,936.53
MT NEBO	140.00	EAST UNION	140.00	BRANCH	77.72	TISHOMINGO	400.50		
MT PLEASANT	38.25	FBC MAGNOLIA	394.00	CALVARY	122.17	UNITY	64.70	<b>YALOBUSHA</b>	
MT VERNON	69.50	FBC MCCOMB	2,331.86	CLIFTON	95.00	YELLOW CREEK	40.00	BETHEL	389.30
SULPHUR SPRINGS	333.06	FBC SUMMIT	1,221.23	EAST MORTON	100.00		3,094.64	CAMP GROUND	179.00
	5,437.19	FELLOWSHIP	237.00	FBC LAKE	435.00	DAYETTE	155.50	FBC COFFEEVILLE	976.66
<b>NORTHWEST</b>		FERNWOOD	216.20	FBC MORTON	567.00	FBC UNION CHURCH	180.00	FBC WATER VALLEY	305.74
ARKABUTLA	401.00	FRIENDSHIP	1,150.00	FOREST	602.00	HERMANVILLE	15.00	OAKLAND	160.00
CARRIAGE HILLS	838.55	HOLMESVILLE	25.00	HARPERVILLE	606.15	PLEASANT HILL	110.00	PINE GROVE	150.00
CEDAR VIEW	264.80	IMMANUEL	52.00	HILLSBORO	250.00	PORT GIBSON	188.00	WAYSIDE	5.00
COLONIAL HILLS	934.63	JOHNSON STATION	225.00	HOMEWOOD	165.62		648.50		2,165.70
EBENEZER DESOTO	95.00	LOCUST STREET	252.50	LIBERTY	45.00	<b>UNION COUNTY</b>		<b>YAZOO</b>	
FAIRHAVEN	25.00	NAVILLA	162.00	MT OLIVET	25.00	AMAZIAH	178.00	BENTON	382.00
FBC COLDWATER	420.00	NORTH MCCOMB	140.00	OAK GROVE	387.00	CENTER	1,233.33	BENTONIA	301.00
FBC EUDORA	780.00	OSYKA	307.00	SEBASTOPOL	253.00	CORNSVILLE	71.00	BETHLEHEM	220.00
FBC HORN LAKE	128.85	PROGRESS	175.00	SPRINGFIELD	352.31	ELLISTOWN	974.62	BLACK JACK	400.00
FBC OLIVE BRANCH	284.36	SILVER CREEK	125.00	TEMPLE	35.00	FBC NEW ALBANY	2,496.00	CENTER RIDGE	130.00
FBC SENATOBIA	633.41	SOUTH MCCOMB	772.15	<b>SHARKEY-ISSAQUENA</b>		FREDONIA	337.07	CENTRAL	41.50
FBC SOUTHAVEN	210.75	TANGIPAHOA	3.00	FBC ANGUILLA	110.00	HARMONY	334.67	CONCORD	204.44
FLAG LAKE	435.40	TERRY CREEK	398.30	FBC ROLLING FORK	469.00	HILLCREST	399.00	EDEN	130.00
GRAYS CREEK	139.05	UNITY	205.00	STRAIGHT BAYOU	557.00	INGOMAR	637.75	FBC YAZOO CITY	2,506.01
HIGHLAND	1,005.00	W MCCOMB	10,762.64	VALLEY PARK	214.00	JERICHO	1,261.62	HEBRON	500.00
IMMANUEL	78.00	<b>PONTOTOC</b>			1,350.00	MACE DONIA	797.55	HOLLY BLUFF	62.00
MEADOW BROOK	109.21	CHEERY CREEK	130.55	<b>SIMPSON</b>		MARTIN	317.13	OGDEN	243.24
MINERAL WELLS	530.00	CHESTERVILLE CALV	30.00	ANTIOCH	136.08	MYRTLE	523.00	OIL CITY	78.00
MT ZION DESOTO	71.63	ECRU	1,004.00	BEULAH	78.51	NORTHIDE	315.00	ROCKY SPRINGS	141.00
MT ZION TATE	855.00	ENDVILLE	122.00	BRAXTON	110.00	PLEASANT RIDGE	422.00	SATARTIA	90.50
NEW PROSPECT	332.00	FBC PONTOTOC	1,898.80	CORINTH	250.75	TEMPLE	250.00	SOUTHSIDE	31.00
PARKWAY	410.00	FBC TROY	44.13	DRY CREEK	109.41	WALLERVILLE	350.00	TINSLEY	25.00
STRAYHORN	200.00	FRIENDSHIP	78.00	EASTSIDE	178.07		10,897.74		5,475.69
SUMMERWOOD	279.00	FURRS	541.00	FBC MAGEE	822.50	<b>WALTHALL</b>		<b>WEBSTER</b>	
TWIN LAKES	200.39	HARMONY	393.01	FBC MENDENHALL	145.00	CALVARY	44.60	CLARKSON	125.00
TYRO	39.00	LIBERTY	450.00	GOODWATER	50.00	CRYSTAL SPRINGS	555.00	CUMBERLAND	135.90
	9,700.03	MIDWAY	133.00	HARRISVILLE	300.00	DINAN	130.00	FBC EUPORA	1,107.30
<b>NOXUBEE</b>		NEW FAITH	37.79	MAIN STREET	45.00	ENON	160.00	FELLOWSHIP	161.00
BROOKSVILLE	230.00	TOXISH	119.00	MT ZION	158.00	KNOXO	211.83	LOLLARS GROVE	100.00
CONCORD	86.00	WEST HEIGHTS	94.25	NEW ZION	80.00	LEXIE	196.12	MANTEE	1,000.25
FBC MACON	689.78	WOODLAND	125.00	OAK GROVE	270.00	MESA	89.00	MATHISTON	686.61
MASHULAVILLE	38.00	ZION	52.00	PINE GROVE	271.00	NEW ZION	156.00	MT VERNON	75.00
	1,043.78		5,289.63	PINOLA	400.00	SALEM	308.00	UNION	3,561.06
<b>OKTIBBEHA</b>		<b>PRENTISS</b>		POPLAR SPRINGS	387.00	TYLERTOWN	1,279.55		
ADATON	20.92	CALVARY	75.00	STONEWALL	200.00	UNION	186.00	<b>UNAFFILIATED</b>	
CALVARY	112.50	CRESTWOOD	449.24	STRONG RIVER	147.07		3,316.10		
CENTER GROVE	67.00	FBC BOONEVILLE	789.00		4,138.39	<b>WARREN</b>			
FBC HABEN	359.00	GASTON	265.00	<b>SMITH</b>		BOVINA	154.00		
FBC STARKVILLE	384.00	INGRAM	93.00	CONCORD	50.00	BOWMAR AVE	475.47		
MEADOW VIEW	190.00	JUMP TOWN MSN	60.00	FBC POLKVILLE	115.00	CALVARY	200.00		
SELF CREEK	200.00	OSBORNE CREEK	126.59	FBC RALEIGH	778.00	FBC VICKSBURG	2,753.89		
STURGES	952.00	PINEY GROVE	100.00	FBC TAYLORSVILLE	800.00	GRACE	203.97		
WAKE FOREST	57.00	THRASHER	100.00	LEAF RIVER	109.45	HIGHLAND	382.37		
	2,342.42	TUSCUMBIA	106.00	MT ZION	194.00	NORTHIDE	132.00		
		WHEELER	172.00	SYLVARENA	725.13	TRINITY	213.75		
			2,335.83	WHITE OAK	336.82	WAYSIDE	370.00		
					3,108.40	WOODLAWN	29.00		
							4,914.45		409,235.00

## M. E. Perry, preacher, dies

Matthew Euodias Perry, 85, retired Baptist pastor and evangelist, died Feb. 8 at King's Daughters Hospital in Greenville. Services were at 10 a.m. Feb. 10 at Emmanuel Church, Greenville.

A native of Kemper County, Perry attended Forrest County Public Schools and State Teachers' College (now University of Southern Mississippi), and

was graduated from Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas. He was ordained to the ministry in 1930.

Perry was an evangelist and music instructor throughout the South for 20 years before returning to Mississippi as an evangelist for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. He served as pastor in Leakesville before moving to Greenville as pastor of Second Church from 1948 to 1958. He later served in Boyle, Corinth, and Leland before returning to Greenville as pastor of Riverport and Northside churches.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Grace Rose Perry; two sons, Matthew E. Perry Jr. of Goldsboro, N.C., and Robert Haines Perry, pastor of First Church, Waynesboro; and seven grandchildren.

## Pinelake sets dedication day

Pinelake Baptist Church, 100 Spillway Road (on the reservoir), Rankin County, will have the dedication service for its new sanctuary-education building and gymnasium on Sunday, Feb. 19, at the 10:30 a.m. worship service.

There will be an open house from 2 to 5 p.m. featuring choir concerts, vocal ensembles, piano and organ duets, and other music.

A good conscience may be sold for money, but never bought with it.—John Mason

## Graves acting president of California college

RIVERSIDE, Calif. (BP)—Harold K. Graves, for 25 years president of Golden Gate Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif., and retired for the past seven years, has been elected acting president of California Baptist College effective March 1.

During the February meeting of the college's trustees also officially moved James R. Staples, CBC president for the past 13 years, to the new position of chancellor.

Staples plans to retire in early 1985 and will serve in a public relations

and fund raising capacity as chancellor. Trustees made it clear the acting president will manage the day-by-day affairs of the school while the chancellor will report directly to the trustees' executive committee.

CBC has been in a financial struggle since news last fall of a \$550,000 current funds deficit. At the November trustees meeting it was announced an acting president would be named in February and the new position of chancellor would be filled by Staples.

## George-Greene commemorates ten years

The annual Baptist Men's Banquet for George and Greene Baptist Association was attended by almost 200 men Jan. 31, at First Baptist Church, Lucedale.

This commemorated ten years of joint effort by these two associations.

The primary purpose of the meeting was to highlight the mission activity of the association. Several reports of successful mission endeavor were given. W. W. Walley, of Waynesboro, spoke on "Today's Challenge of Missions." Mission projects for 1984 were suggested. These projects will involve many individuals and a number of the churches.

At this banquet Horace Glass was recognized by the two associations for his ten years of service as director of missions. He was presented a plaque.

He was given a 45 caliber black powder muzzle-loader gun and a love offering from the 29 Southern Baptist churches in the two counties.



Pictured from left are Horace Glass, director of missions; Cecil Bufkin, treasurer of the group; and Roy T. Myers, pastor of Rocky Creek Church.

## McKeever Day proclaimed

January 29 was proclaimed Joe McKeever Day by Columbus mayor, James Trotter, in celebration and appreciation of McKeever's 10th anniversary as pastor of First Baptist Church, Columbus.

Over 500 friends, family members, former teachers, classmates, roommates, and former associates gathered for a special program planned by a church committee and held in the Columbus City Auditorium.

Master of ceremonies was James Richardson, pastor of First Church, Madison. Several of McKeever's teachers and friends and associates

from times of the past participated in the program which looked at "Joe the child, Joe the student, Joe the husband and father, and Joe the minister."

Other speakers included James Strobel, president of Mississippi University for Women; Earl Kelly, executive secretary, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board; Gene Henderson, pastor of Fairview, Columbus (who has since accepted the pastorate of First, Greenville); and Mrs. Mildred Phillips, a member of the nominating committee that took McKeever to Columbus in 1974.

## Just for the Record—

Colonial Hills Church, Southaven, has designated Feb. 26 as "Crusade Sunday," with Paul Jackson as speaker. This will also be High Attendance Day. High attendance goal in Sunday School is 810, and Church Training goal is 300. Tommy Vinson is pastor.

An evangelism retreat for pastors and other church staffers will be held Feb. 24 and 25 at the Mobile Baptist Citronelle Assembly, beginning at 3 p.m. Friday and concluding with lunch on Saturday. Roy Fish, chairman of evangelism, Southwestern Seminary, and George Stout, retired professor of music at the University of Houston, along with other pastors of the Mobile Baptist Association, will be speakers. The speaker will stress biblical strategy and methodology of evangelism in the local church, testimony, and inspiration. Total cost, which will cover meals and lodging, will be \$17.50. Each person is to take his or her own pillow, linens and covers, towels, and toilet articles. Reservations should be made at the Mobile Baptist associational office by Feb. 22 (phone 661-7111).

Bethlehem Church near Ackerman has voted to build four new Sunday School rooms, and has started a building fund for that purpose. The church has outgrown its Sunday School space and now has two classes meeting in cars when the weather is permissible, and otherwise with more than one in the sanctuary.

The Doris Compere group of Woman's Missionary Union at First Church, Pontotoc, decided in the fall of 1983 "to carry a Christian Christmas to the internationals at the University of Mississippi." Other WMU groups joined them in the project. A menu was planned with foreign tastes in mind; 27 from the church carried goodies to around 50 students at Ole Miss. Each student was given a red stocking containing Scripture readings for each day in December.

At a party for the internationals, Wade Allen, director of missions, Pontotoc County, read the Christmas story from the Bible and Jim Hess led in a time of caroling. Other meetings are being planned to keep this spirit of sharing Christ with the internationals, said Allen.

## Devotional

### Power to see things through

By Peter McLeod, pastor, First, Hattiesburg  
II Timothy 4:7

Our generation, more than any generation in history, has stressed the gospel of a good start.

We have emphasized the significant role that early childhood influences and impressions have upon our lifestyle and mind-set as adults.

In marriage we counsel young couples about the importance of getting their values and priorities nailed down early in their relationship.

In the church we stress the importance of "discipling" young Christians so they can grow and mature in their experience with Christ.

Without question, in almost every area of life a good beginning is vital.

But, the gospel of a good start is just half the story, for it must be balanced with the gospel of a good finish. Starting power and staying power must be inextricably wed together.

Paul in our text gives us a moving witness to this fact. In jail at Rome, waiting for death by execution, Paul writes to his son in faith, Timothy, and gives this moving testimony. "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." Only one other man in the New Testament was able to make a similar claim. That was Christ on the cross when he cried in victory, "It is finished."

A pastor friend in Texas once told me the greatest lesson his father ever taught him was that he had to finish whatever he started. Whether it was mowing the lawn or making a model airplane, his father insisted that he stay with it until it was completed.

This is a great lesson for life and faith. God helps Christians by his spirit dwelling in us to "stay by the stuff" and finish the course.



McLeod

## Staff Changes

Trinity Church, Wayne County, has called Tracy Simmons of Laurel as its first minister of music. Miss Simmons received an associate of arts degree from Jones Junior College and attended William Carey College before receiving a bachelor of music degree from the University of Southern Mississippi in 1983. Jake Williams is the pastor at Trinity, which is 20 miles east of Laurel and one-half mile north of Highway 84. The paragraph in last week's Baptist Record, stating that Trinity Church, Laurel, had called Miss Simmons, was in error.

Jan Dalrymple has accepted the position as minister of education at First Church, West Point.

Ann Irvin is the new minister of music and youth at Derma Church, Calhoun County.

Transcumbia Church, Booneville, Prentiss Association, has called Billy Dowdy as pastor. He began his duties Jan. 15. He is a graduate of Pearl River Junior College and William Carey College. Presently he is attending Mid-America Seminary, Memphis. Former pastors rates include F. O. Overt, and New Hope in Franklin County. His new address is Route 1, Booneville 38829.

A. Sullivan has resigned from the pastorate of Pace Church, Bolivar County and planned to move to Cleveland. He is available for pulpit supply (phone 843-2527).

Eric Measells is interim minister of music for Calvary Church, Bolivar County. He is a student at Delta State University.

Bill Lollar, former pastor of Arcola Church in Washington County, has assumed pastoral leadership of the Raven Oaks Church, Omaha, Neb. Lollar and family lived in Arcola while attending Mid-America Seminary in Memphis. Several Arcola members gave a fellowship luncheon for the Lollars and honored them with a love offering on Jan. 22. Lollar was ordained by First Church, Greenville, in 1982. He is a native of Columbus. His wife, Sheri, is formerly of Omaha. Their new address is 7818 Raven Oaks Drive, Omaha, Nebraska 68152.

Zion Church, Pontotoc Association, has called Wayne Francis as minister of music. He has served various churches in Lee and Prentiss Associations. The Francis family, Wayne, Nan, and Rob, live in Tupelo. Danny Bullock is the pastor at Zion.

James Gilbert has resigned as pastor of Valley Hill Church, Carroll County, to accept a church at Bay Town, Tex.

Ed Jelks has resigned as pastor of Ebenezer Church, Mississippi Association, due to his work with the Home Mission Board, according to a report in the "Messenger," associational news bulletin.

Joe Small, pastor of Gillsburg Church, Mississippi Association, retired on Jan. 1. The church held a reception for him and his wife. They are moving to Cross Roads, Miss., near Bogalusa, La.

George Steward, new pastor at Longview, Pontotoc County, moved into the pastorium there Jan. 2.

Southside Church, Benoit, Bolivar County, has called Terry Owens as pastor. He came from the pastorate of Southside Church, Lake Village, Ark.

## Norma Brewer dies

Mrs. Norma Goodson Brewer, 32, of Springridge Road, Jackson, died Feb. 2 at Hinds General Hospital. Services were at 2 p.m. on Feb. 4 at Baldwin, Lee, & Barnes Funeral Home in Jackson. She had formerly been employed by the Department of Work with National Baptists of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board for six years. A native of New Orleans, she had lived in Jackson since 1957. She was a graduate of Hinds Junior College and a member of Daniel Memorial Baptist Church, Jackson. Survivors include her husband, Eddie Brewer; sons, Michael Edward and Marcus, and daughter, Angela Michelle of Jackson; parents, Virgie and William P. Davis (former president of Mississippi Baptist Seminary and director, Department of Work with National Baptists, now retired), Jackson; stepbrother, William S. Davis, Rome, Ga.; and sister, Mrs. Paula G. Prisco of Florence, former Baptist Record employee.

## Edith Ballard dies

Edith Alexander Ballard, 55, wife of a retired pastor, Taylor Ballard, died Feb. 2, of cancer. Funeral services were held at 10 a.m. on Feb. 4 at Raymond Baptist Church, where she was a member. Sam Mason, pastor, officiated.

Mrs. Ballard was on the faculty of Hinds Junior College, where she taught organ. In earlier years she had taught at Mississippi College and Clarke College. She was a graduate of Mississippi College and Southwestern Seminary. She was a native of Itta Bena, Miss.

Survivors include her husband of Raymond; two sons, Bruce and Bart; a daughter, Barbara Lou; her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Alexander, Itta Bena; and one sister, Mrs. Kim Farley, Houston, Tex.

Some people seem to think that crime is not crime until discovery makes it so.—M. L. Byrn

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# Baptist Record reminiscence

(Continued from page 2)

quired if he knew of anyone he could contact about being his assistant. His former co-worker, Doris Wiggins, was leaving to return to get her degree. So Newport said, "I know who could do it, but she won't leave Elwyn Wilkinson." But Dr. Goodrich did not let that stop him. He wrote to me and my prayer had been answered! I did not jump to a decision. Since my pastor was from Mississippi I wanted to talk with him. He assured me I could do the work! And he encouraged me to accept. Of the five Wilkinson children, the baby (not a year old when I moved to Danville) was my "pet."

After moving to Jackson, I learned that Dr. Goodrich was a native of Benson, N. C., six miles from my home town. He was an avid baseball fan. We knew during World Series he would be somewhere listening on radio! I had a room in home of Mrs. Sue Stuart Brame, 158 N. President Street, and put my church letter in First Baptist Church. Dr. Hewitt was my pastor, and later Dr. Douglas Hudgins. I was active in Sunday School, Training Union, and Business Women's Circle. Dr. Fancher taught our class for a while, then Mrs. Dana Slaughter Millar, retired missionary. She was a wonderful teacher and an inspiration to me.

The Baptist headquarters were downtown in the building of Draughon's Business College. I told them I had come to collect part of my share of the firm! They assured me it was now a trade name and no Draughon connections. Later Baptist headquarters were moved to The Education Building across from the Capitol. (The founder of Draughon's Business College in Nashville, Tenn. and my ancestors were all from eastern North Carolina.)

Of many friends in Jackson and environs I recall that the former editor, Dr. P. I. Lipsey, would come by the office occasionally. I heard older ones recall Dr. Gambrell, former editor; later moved to Texas. Miss Lois Tyler was in charge of mailing. Mrs. Eleanor Smith was in editor's office as proof reader. I worked with the editor in re-writing items sent in, also typing his correspondence, as well as articles for the Record. Miss Fannie Traylor, also Miss Edwina Robinson, were in W.M.U. office. Edwina and I had been in Training School together. Dr. Scotchie McCall was executive secretary; his wife, Marjorie, worked part time. Miss Bess Schilling was in business office, also Jimmy Lane. Auber Wilds was director of Training Union, and Charles Horner in B.S.U. office. Among those who visited in the offices when home from his travels was Dr. Chester E. Swor. He was BSU president at Mississippi College the same year I was at Greensboro, N.C. We met at the Baptist Student Retreat at Ridgecrest in 1928.

The old janitor, Sam, was faithful in his service. He died during my stay in Jackson. Many of the Mississippi pastors were good friends during those almost four years. I knew the Goodrich children and Mrs. Goodrich, though we did not see them often. One thing I recall is that Mr. Goodrich loved the circus, and when

one came to town he would invite his co-workers in the Baptist Record office to go with him and his family!

During the summer of 1947, the editor went abroad for several weeks. That put extra responsibility upon me. I not only edited copy, but also wrote editorials, sent copy each week to Vicksburg, where the paper was printed. Dr. Goodrich was circulation manager as well as editor and promoted the paper in all his travels. We passed 50,000 circulation in The Every Family Plan while I was on the staff!

Across from where I roomed was the home of Prof. W. F. Bond, whose daughter married the son of my good friends in Danville. He was James G. Blaine of Hazlehurst (then in service). When his mother and sister (Mrs. Harold Burke) visited those years, they came to the Bonds to see Gladys and the grandchildren.

While in Jackson I had several opportunities to accept other positions, one even before I had been on the job six months! In 1948 I returned to my native state for a local church position. I was in North Carolina until 1955 when I moved to Georgetown College in Georgetown, Ky., to accept the work of administrative assistant in alumni and public relations while Dr. H. Leo Eddleman (a Mississippian) was president of the college. I served there for nine years.

Soon after my arrival at the college, I met a fellow-Tar Heel, Dr. O. W. Yates, a college trustee, and pas-

tor of Rosemont Baptist Church, Lexington, Ky. He was several years my senior. After his first wife (whom I never met) passed away, he came to see me; and we were married in May, 1964. The Lord gave us 17 good years together, until his death in 1981. I met his two married daughters (out of state) when they came to our wedding held in home of my friends, the Harold Burkes. When we married, I also gained two sons-in-law and five grandchildren.

My husband was diabetic (not on needle), but that was not new to me! Dr. Goodrich was diabetic, as well as my later co-worker, Ken Fendley, at Georgetown College. I did not have to cook for them, however! O. W. had 72 years as a Baptist minister, of which there were 30 years as college professor of Bible and Greek, pastor of rural churches all those years, and from 1946-1952 fund raiser for chapel at Georgetown College and Central Baptist Hospital in Lexington, prior to his acceptance of the Rosemont Church, where he served for 14 years before retirement.

I am glad to be active, able to drive in Lexington on local errands, take a bus or fly when I go out of town. Night finds me at home, unless out with friends.

"Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life." He has protected and guided me in sickness and health through these many years, and my desire is to continue to be a faithful witness and servant for my Lord.

## SBC schools in BMT

(Continued from page 2)

stitutions believe it is also important to train Christian doctors, lawyers, business professionals, educators, journalists, nurses, and leaders in other professions.

Just as our denomination needs trained leaders in church vocations, it needs laypersons who have been taught the Christian perspective found at most Southern Baptist educational institutions.

It is in producing tomorrow's Christian leaders that Southern Baptist colleges and schools play a vital role in carrying out God's work. This is the reason more and more people are becoming increasingly aware of the value of Baptist schools.

D. L. Lowrie, a Texas pastor and past president of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, chided Texas Baptists at their annual convention for not being more supportive of their institutions.

He told them that while their convention "could survive without its institutions . . . Survival is not the question. The question is, 'Can we do what God wants us to do without Christian institutions, and can the institutions fit into the design of God without us?'"

This is equally true for the Southern Baptist Convention which supports six seminaries and jointly sponsors the American Baptist Theological Seminary and the 17 state conventions which support 63

Southern Baptist colleges and schools.

Southern Baptists need quality educational institutions and these schools need Southern Baptists' financial and prayer support.

The message is clear.

Southern Baptist colleges and schools are committed to Christian witness. Southern Baptists need to be committed to these institutions.

Together, Bold Mission Thrust can become a reality.

Arthur Walker is executive director-treasurer of the Education Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention, Nashville, Tenn.

## Book Reviews

**LIVING WITH ADULT CHILDREN**, by Monica Lauen O'Kane; Diction Books, P.O. Box 17271, St. Paul, Minn. 55117; 172 pages; paperback, \$6.95; hardcover, \$11.95; when ordering from printer add \$1.50 for shipping.

This is a guide for parents and their grown children who live at home beyond the time that they normally would move out and into places they had provided for themselves. The au-

thor says there is no prescribed time for leaving home, and the issue needs understanding. The context of the issue includes money, cultural and social expectations, psychological readiness, and family values.



Little

Jimmy J. McCordle was ordained a deacon on Jan. 22 at First Church, Petal. W. A. Fordham is pastor there.

Joey Little was recently licensed to the ministry by Star Church, Rankin County. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Little and is now attending Wesley College at Florence. Clifton Perkins is interim pastor at Star.

Mrs. Barbara Carolyn Menist, 47, died Feb. 3 at her home in Clinton. Services were at 2 p.m. on Feb. 6 at Provine Chapel, Mississippi College. Mrs. Menist was the daughter of Mrs. C. A. Schotte, who for many years worked full-time with the WMU Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board and who continues to work part-time at Camp Garaywa. Born in Jackson, she moved five years ago to Clinton. She attended Belhaven College, Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa, and Mississippi College. She is survived by her husband, John Menist, Jackson; son, Carl David, Jackson; daughter, Laurie Anne, Clinton; and her mother, who lives in Clinton.

MK (missionary kid) Terry Douglas Lee has been chosen by the American School in Barcelona, Spain, to attend the annual model United Nations at The Hague, Netherlands. Lee and other students will play the parts of representatives to the United Nations during the five-day seminar.

He is the son of Southern Baptist missionaries Paul and Brenda Lee, from Starkville and Louisville, Miss. The senior honor student plans to attend Mississippi State University this fall.

Carl Hill recently completed ten years as director of the bus ministry at Parkway Church, Jackson.

ALL THE DEACONS OF CALVARY CHURCH, LAMAR ASSOCIATION, HATTIESBURG, were honored with a churchwide reception as a part of Deacon's Focus Week in January. They are John Cole, Martin Bateman, Canoy Thompson, Wendell Wilson, Joseph Hasty, A. W. Wilson, Charles Downing, Duane Hall, Melvin Stafford, Bill Leggett, Glenwood Downing, Johnny Purvis, Gerald Lester, Raymond McMahon, Vernon Dale, C. D. Cole, Bill Osborn, who is also interim pastor, A. F. Thornton, Harold Traylor, Bounds Caldwell, John Russell, and Mansell Hill.



CHARLES DOWNING, JOHNNY PURVIS, and BILL LEGGETT were recently ordained as deacons during a Sunday morning worship service at Calvary Church, Hattiesburg. The charge was given by Douglas Benedict, director of missions, Lamar Association.

## Names in the News

Robert and Donna Burris, missionaries in Taiwan, have arrived on the field to begin their first term of service (address: Fu Hsing 1st Rd., 61-2, Kaohsiung, Taiwan 800 ROC). He is a native of Texas. She was born in Newton, Miss.

Rex Lucas was recently ordained a deacon at North Columbia Church in Columbia, Marion Association. Porter Buckley gave the ordination message. Jackie Cooke is pastor.

Carey E. Bass was ordained to the gospel ministry at Whitesand Church, Prentiss, Jeff Davis-Covington Association. He is a graduate of Southwest Baptist University and is in his second year of seminary education at New Orleans. He is available for pulpit supply, full-time or interim pastorate. He may be contacted at Rt. 2, Box 158, Prentiss, Miss. 39474 (telephone 792-4923).



ELLISON RIDGE CHURCH, WINSTON COUNTY, recently ordained two deacons, MARION HISAW (left) and JAMES CRAWFORD, (center), JERRY M. McMULLEN (right), pastor, presented their certificates of ordination.

Doug Whitenton and Robert Evans of Harrisburg Church, Tupelo, are among five from Lee County Association who were in Costa Rica on a volunteer mission assignment Feb. 3-12. They were involved mainly in construction work and worked with Don and Jo Redmon and Russell and Annette Herrington, missionaries.

## Uniform

## "Come to the feast"

By Robert Earl Shirley, pastor, Parkway, Tupelo  
Isaiah 55:1-3; 6-11

Although we will continue to make spiritual applications of these messages from Isaiah to our present day, we will profit from looking at them in their original setting. Israel had lived so long as exiles in a foreign land that they had become reconciled to their condition. Thus, when Cyrus granted them permission to leave and return home, many were reluctant to go.

Once again, they would be pulling up roots and leaving behind physical security and financial stability for a future that seemed uncertain. At this point in history, the prophet comes with an invitation to them from God to attend a feast. Some have seen the water, wine, and milk referred to here as blessings that the nation is to enjoy on return from captivity, but the verses that follow make it obvious that Isaiah is referring to spiritual blessings of a far superior nature. That which they are to receive are gifts of divine grace which come as the free gift of God.

**The universal invitation (55:1-3).** It is to a nation that has sinned and been rebuked that God offers the wonderful invitation, "Come ye to the waters." The symbolism used is an ideal one, as water is an absolute essential both in the maintaining of human life and the producing of a harvest. What is offered cannot be bought but will be freely given to everyone who will accept it. The abundance of God's grace is stressed here as their soul will delight itself in "fatness" and they are

to be "abundantly" pardoned. Having sought the things in life that bring no satisfaction, they are urged to accept from God those things that will fill their lives for the present and will continue to bring joy forever.

**The everlasting covenant (55:3).** The covenant relationship that exists between God and his people is a precious one and reaches back at least to the days of Abraham. It was renewed from generation to generation including a reaffirmation with David (II Samuel 7:8-16) following his great sin and repentance. He was to be their God, and they would then be his people. The only hope for a sinful nation or a sinful soul is that God will keep this covenant. This he here promises to do.

Men, on the other hand, have the responsibility of acceptance. This chapter is replete with admonitions to "come," "buy," "hearken," "incline," "eat," "hear," "seek," "return," etc. They have refused to listen to the voice of the prophets in years gone by. They should not make this same mistake again. In bondage, they may have felt that their lives were wasted, but a full abundant, useful, productive, enjoyable life is ever promised to those who choose to live it.

**The assurance of God's Word (55:6-11).** When both John the Baptist and Jesus began preaching, they brought a message of repentance which is in accord with the pleas of

Isaiah. As surely as the wicked will forsake his way and the unrighteous man his thought and return unto the Lord, so will God have mercy and will abundantly pardon. Repentance is a two-fold experience, a turning-from and a turning-to. They are to seek the Lord, and they are to do it now.

Instead of God turning his back upon them as a result of their past disobedience, the door has been thrown wide open, and they have but to enter in. The appeal is not made by some far distant deity but by a very present, personal God who is waiting for their commitment. The arrangements have been made, Cyrus is willing, the land awaits them. They must not waste this opportunity, for it may not come again.

Isaiah assures the exiles that God's Word will never fail them. The ways and thoughts of men are fickle, and both the captives and the captors have been in and out of God's will as the years have passed.

The past now must be put behind them, and they can act upon his promises without hesitation or fear. His Word shall accomplish that which he pleases in spite of any obstacle, opposition, or problem that might occur. God's promises to Israel so many years ago, should have courage to us today. A world that has achieved the ability to destroy itself will find that the only real security and hope for peace is in Christ Jesus.

## Bible Book

## The fall of Israel

By Bill Causey, pastor, Parkway, Jackson  
II Kings 17:1-41

Our lesson for today concerns the fall of the Northern Kingdom. Hoshea had become king by killing Pekah (15:30). He too did evil in the sight of the Lord but not to the same extent as some who went before him (v. 2). The King of Assyria (Shalmeneser) made Israel a servant country and forced the payment of tribute. Shalmeneser then discovered that Hoshea was conspiring with Egypt to get out from under his rule. This brought an invasion by Assyria and the imprisonment of Hoshea. The siege of Samaria, the capital city, took three years. Israel was carried into captivity and resettled. The prophets during this period were Hosea, Isaiah and Micah. The Northern Kingdom had lasted about 200 years and had 19 kings all of whom had walked in the sins of idolatry started by the founder Jeroboam. At first they had sinned against God's law but finally against his patient love.

## I. Why Israel fell (7-23)

The next verses (7-18) are a virtual list of reasons why God finally gave them over to their enemies. Some of those reasons are: They sinned against God who delivered them from Egypt; they revered other Gods; they adopted the customs of the nations they had run out of the land; committed secret sins; made high places of heathen worship; put up memorials to female deities; served idols generally; and resisted God's continual appeal (v. 13). They even practiced child sacrifice and magic (v. 17) and literally "sold themselves to do evil." God therefore removed them from the land.

A summary of Israel's evil is included in verses 19-23, reminding us that all of this grew out of the sins of Jeroboam who first introduced idol worship in the land.

## II. The resettlement of the Land (24-33)

The King of Assyria, having resettled the Israelites in a distant land now brought foreigners to settle the land that God had given to Israel. Almost immediately these foreigners sensed their rejection by "the God of this land," and sent for one of the exiled priests to return to these new people and teach them of God. One returned to Bethel and taught the colonists how to worship the Lord. This just included God among the many foreign religious practices and the result was confusion and a further mixture of error and truth. Even child sacrifice continued (v.

31). This complete breakdown of truth is reflected in this new and synthetic religion in which all gods were included and they even "appointed priests from among themselves" (v. 32) without any guidance from the true God.

## III. The lost dream (34)

It is as if the writer of scripture is explaining and weeping over the resultant disintegration of the dream God had had for the descendants of Jacob (whom he had named Israel). It is as if there is a play on words here in that (Israel—prince of God) has reverted to his old nature as Jacob (the trickster). But God is never tricked, and the people now experience the grief of their lost destiny. God had given them laws (v. 35) to keep their religion pure, and had demonstrated his power among them when they were true (v. 36). He had sought to hold them together as his very own, but they would not listen (v. 40). This explains the decadent people there, "until this day," as the writer said.

## IV. Lessons for today

God sometimes uses outside forces to punish his people, as he used Assyria here. God warned them through his prophets and those warnings are still in effect. "Righteousness exalts a nation . . ."

God also demands that he be exclusively the object of our worship and devotion. Mixing other influences, whether through culture or being tolerant, finally brings destruction. "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God, with all thy heart, with all thy soul, with all thy mind" (Deut. 6:5; Matt. 22:37) is still the requirement of true faithfulness.

In our national life and our private lives, our love for God as our exclusive Lord is our real strength and the guarantee of our service to him. And while we may suffer as his servant people, we may be assured that our lives have meaning and that he is with us, accomplishing the high purposes of his Kingdom.

## Life and Work

## Giving your all

By Gerald P. Buckley, pastor, Parkway, Natchez  
Mark 10:13-15, 23-25

No amount of Christian service can substitute for the giving of self. The giving of self involves the surrender of one's own will to God's will in daily living. Giving our all means the surrender of our time, talents, and possessions into his hands. There is no place for halfhearted service.

## I. The contrast of attitudes (Mark 10:13-15)

It was customary for children on their first birthday to be blessed by a rabbi. With so great a rabbi present, parents brought their children of various ages. A procession of parents and children were waiting for Jesus to give them his blessing.

The disciples scolded the people for bothering Jesus. Once again we see the rebuking disciples. What remarkable skill they had in missing the spirit of Jesus.

It is a sad day when a church regards its youth as bothersome. For some within the church, youth are seen grudgingly. Some speak out to warn fellow members not to do too much for the young. However, many Christians take a totally different attitude. They are excited over the potential of the youth in their churches. They are willing to teach these youngsters in Sunday School, give generously to provide for a quality youth program and encourage their staff to build a quality youth program.

A few years ago I walked through the bus parking lot at Disneyworld. That parking lot was filled with buses

from Baptist churches. It was refreshing to see strong evidence that many Baptist churches are working hard to provide for their youth.

If we wish to know what things Jesus cared deeply about, one sure clue is to be found in the things that roused his anger. Mark does not hesitate to say that Jesus was angry. It was not because of some personal insult to himself. It was because little children, the weak and helpless, were being rejected. An acid test of a society is the way it treats children.

"Let the children come to me, do not hinder them." We can hinder children in many ways. It is possible to hinder them in our homes by making Christ unattractive through our own example. We can show our children through our actions that we do not consider Jesus very important compared to other interests.

Jesus quickly came to the defense of the children. He also advanced them to the top of the scale of values by which a person enters the Kingdom of God. Children are identified with the Kingdom of God by their lack of power and their need for help. A child in arms has neither social influence nor personal strength upon which to rely. Utter trust relaxes the child in the arms of the parent. So it is with all who enter the Kingdom of God.

## II. The danger of wealth (Mark 10:23-25)

Jesus encountered the rich young

ruler (see Mark 10:17-22). This young ruler came with such high aspirations. When he learned the terms for following Jesus, he went away sorrowful. Jesus had seen that the young man's wealth stood between him and God.

Jesus said that it would be difficult for those who have riches to enter the Kingdom of God. He was aware of the effect of riches on the spiritual life. The hazard of wealth lies in the fact that means have a subtle way of becoming ends. Having become a substitute for being, riches can imprison a man in a world of illusion. He develops a false sense of security. The rich man is liable to become like Gulliver: he wakes up on the beach of the island of Lilliput, huge among the pygmies, but bound to earth by a multitude of little strings.

"It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the Kingdom of God." This is a strong statement. So much so that from earliest times efforts have been made to tone it down.

Some claim that "needle" refers to a small door in the Jaffa gate in Jerusalem, through which a camel might enter only by being stripped of its burden and crawling through on its knees. This is a most suggestive figure. However, there is no evidence that such a door existed either in Jerusalem or in any other Palestinian town. It makes good preaching but not good scholarship. Of interest is the fact that Matthew and Mark use the Greek word for a sewing nee-

dle, while Luke uses the word for a surgical needle. The verse means, strangely enough, what it says. Jesus was talking with picturesque exaggeration.

Here was a mountain of impossibility. The image of a big, gangling, shaggy, awkward camel trying to poke his nose, to say nothing of his shoulders and mountainous hump, through the tiny eye of a needle would cause a smile to pass over the face. Jesus' point is that it is impossible for a person who makes wealth his god to enter God's kingdom.

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